

Thursday, October 17, 1974

## CAPITOL HILL

*In a packed hearing room on Capitol Hill - an historic first today; President Ford the nation's first Chief Executive ever to submit to formal interrogation by a Congressional body. Testifying for nearly two hours before a House subcommittee - on why he pardoned former President Nixon.*

*In his opening statement the President saying:*

*"The reason I gave the pardon was not for Mr. Nixon himself - but to try and get the United States, the Congress the President and the American people - focused on the serious problems we have at home and abroad." "I wanted to do all I could" - he continued - "to shift our attentions from the pursuit of a fallen President - to the pursuit of the urgent needs of a rising nation." Then adding: "We would needlessly be diverted from meeting these challenges*

- if we as a people were to remain sharply divided over whether to indict, bring to trial and punish a former President;" a man "who already is condemned to suffer long and deeply."

Then followed a series of questions; including one from Congressman Holtzman of New York - suggesting the possibility of a "deal." The President rather gruffly telling Miss Holtzman: "I want to assure you and members of this subcommittee, members of the Congress and the American people - that there was no deal - period! under no circumstances!"

The President also denied that he had been told Mr. Nixon might commit suicide - if he were forced to stand trial. The former President's health - having no bearing - said he. Insisting again he had not granted the pardon "for Mr. Nixon's benefit - but for the country."

This no doubt one of the most dramatic events in our history.

## **ROCKEFELLER**

*Here in New York - the wife of Vice President-nominee Nelson Rockefeller - forty-eight-year-old Happy Rockefeller - was operated on today for breast cancer. The doctors performing a radical mastectomy - much the same as they did in the case of First Lady Betty Ford less than three weeks ago.*

*A later report saying the malignancy in Mrs. Rockefeller - had not spread to her lymph system. Doctors adding that her condition - is now "excellent;" and the outlook for full recovery - also, "excellent - over ninety per cent."*

## SCOTT FOLLOW ROCKEFELLER

Back in Washington - Senator Scott of Virginia, a Republican, today became the first member of the Senate - to say he would vote against Rockefeller for Vice President. Scott saying his decision was based to a great extent - on ~~Rockefeller's role in~~ the publication of that<sup>x</sup> Goldberg book.

Adding that his mail was running eighty-five per cent - against confirmation.

The Senator also sending a letter to President Ford - urging withdrawal of the Rockefeller nomination; saying it "could revive - much of the Watergate atmosphere."

## **WATERGATE**

*At the Watergate cover-up trial - tape recordings of White House conversations were played in public today - for the first time. Not a great deal of that we haven't already heard about. Except at one point, Richard Nixon and key advisers agreeing that then-House Minority Leader Gerald Ford - should head off a House investigation. He obviously didn't.*

*On another front, Judge Sirica saying he thinks the former President - should be compelled to testify. But he postponed a formal ruling - pending a further report on Mr. Nixon's health.*



## AID

*After another veto - again sustained in the House at last, a compromise on the <sup>2</sup>~~at~~ "no aid to Turkey bill." The President and Congressional leaders - agreeing to a continuation of U.S. aid to Turkey 'till December Tenth. This providing that no American "implements of war" - are transmitted to Cyprus; and that Turkey observe the Cyprus cease-fire - and send in no more troops.*

## COMMERCE

From the Commerce Department - a report today disclosing a two-point-nine per cent drop - in the third-quarter gross national product. Commerce Secretary Frederick Dent ~~insisting, however - we are not in a~~ <sup>saying this is no</sup> recession, ~~"what we have here" - said he - "is a~~ <sup>merely a</sup> sideways waffling;" due in part - to the recent "energy spasm."

## VENTURA

A grisly crime reminiscent of the Old West - is reported from Ventura County, California. A cab driver by the name of George Aird, age twenty-seven - summoned to a camp occupied by members of the American Indian Movement; there stabbed to death, robbed and scalped - in a ritual-type murder. His body was then dragged into a small building <sup>with</sup> the authorities tell us; <sup>ing</sup> ~~and~~ "everybody got inside - chanting and kicking the victim and passing his hair around."

The two alleged ringleaders of the Indian group - now being sought on murder charges. They <sup>are</sup> identified as Richard Rolling Thunder Mohawk - and Paul Blue Cloud Durant.



## HAMPSTEAD

*Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton - once the epitome of blazing romance, both on and off the screen.*

*Now comes a report - it'll soon be Liz and Dick again.*

*Richard Burton announcing today at Hampstead, England -*

*he plans to wed, "as soon as possible," Princess Elizabeth*

*of Yugoslavia. ~~A fortunate choice~~ <sup>Why</sup> They won't even have*

*to change the towels.*

## NEW YORK

The new chairman of the American Cancer Crusade - film star Raquel Welch, ~~who~~ assumed her official duties today in New York, ~~Miss Welch~~ saying she wants cancer "wiped out" - because she's seen "how frequently and hard it hits." <sup>When a</sup> ~~A~~ reporter asking, ~~however~~ whether her image wasn't "too frivolous" for such a job; whereupon ~~she~~ she burst into tears <sup>--</sup> and broke off the interview.

Miss Welch later returning though - apologizing for the interruption - ~~and~~ saying: "I volunteered to be chairman of the Cancer Crusade - because the public has been very good to me; and now - I want to do something for them."

## **SYRACUSE**

**A new study of the sexuality of highly intelligent woman - is reported today from Syracuse. Psychology Professor Manfred De Martino - probing the psyches of more than three hundred women with high IQ's.. Coming to the conclusion that brainy women are sexually more aggressive and less inhibited by far than women of only average intelligence.**

**The professor going on to say that men have apparently "been looking in the wrong direction - for a long time." Adding: "They should be making passes - at girls who wear glasses."**

*Bob Pub  
Bill Murroughs*