

Friday, October 26, 1973  
Sub: Reid Collins

*At a news conference just ended, President Nixon himself referred to a cease-fire abroad and one on the domestic front: Watergate.*

*A report from Washington and correspondent Neil Strawser:*

**TAPE SWITCH**

## PRESIDENT NIXON

*President Nixon tonight pointed to his handling of the Middle Eastern crisis as proof of his ability to carry on with his job. He said acting Attorney General Robert Bork next week will appoint a new Watergate prosecutor but will have independence and the cooperation of the executive branch. That said Mr. Nixon should be acceptable to the Congress. And the President put much of the blame for the furor over the Watergate tape crisis on the broadcast news media. Charging outrageous, vicious, distorted reporting.*

*NIXON: When people are pounded night after night with that kind of frantic, hysterical reporting it naturally shakes their confidence. And yet, I should point out that even in this week, when many thought the President was shell-shocked unable to act the President acted decisively in the interest of peace, in the interest of the country and I can assure you that whatever shocks, gentlemen of the press may have or others, political people, the shocks will not affect me in my doing my job.*

**STRAWSER:** *The President said the confrontation with the Soviet Union over the mideast was not something blown up to coverup his Watergate troubles but was the most serious since the Cuban missile crisis of nineteen-sixty-two. But he said the steps to resolve it have lead to a major stride forward toward peace. The outlook for permanent peace in the Middle East he said is now the best in twenty-years. Neil Strawser, CBS News, Washington.*

*The first units of a UN emergency force charged with keeping a cease-fire in the Middle East has arrived in Cairo from Cyprus. Nine Hundred men are available but Secretary General Waldheim says he believes it will take Seven Thousand men. Waldheim says it would cost thirty million dollars to keep that many men in the field for six months.*

*Israeli sources say the first of Soviet party leader Brezhnev's "representatives" have arrived in Cairo - truce observers Brezhnev sent in on his own. He urged the United States to send in similar forces. Washington says it will act at the invitation of the U.N. And Mr. Nixon said tonight during his news conference that he expects such a request to be forth-coming from Secretary General Waldheim.*

*The United Nations Security Council was called into emergency session in New York this evening. Egypt complained that Israel was breaking the cease-fire. Israel had said earlier that twenty-thousand Egyptians encircled on the east bank of the Suez keep trying to break free. Egypt's foreign minister El Zayyat says more fighting is expected:*

*Tape : 34 "AS WE ARE WARNED."*

*Egypt's foreign minister at the United Nations.*

UNITED NATIONS

(taken from ~~film~~ tape)

The soldiers marooned in Sinai, encircled, are of course returning the fire to those (?) that are attacking them from the air. The inhabitants of Suez and the soldiers in the Suez are of course returning the fire on those who are attacking by tanks and by air. But we expect that a few hours from now, at dawn perhaps in the Middle East there will be another major offensive (indistinct) until the offensive takes place because we thought the Council should be warned of it now as we are warned.

**BORK**

*Acting Attorney General Robert Bork said this evening he has given the White House several names as potential prosecutors to replace Archibald Cox.*

*A majority of the U.S. Senate today backed a measure that would authorize Federal Judge Sirica to name a prosecutor and have him under the judge's auspices.*

*Published reports in Washington said agriculture secretary Earl Butz had tried to intervene in a Federal trade commission probe of a wine industry merger in California in Nineteen-Seventy-Two.*

*In California, Secretary Butz reacted angrily:*

*TAPE: 37 "Make some undesirable conclusion."*

*Agriculture Secretary Butz.*



(taken from tape)

*I did in fact talk to the people in the Federal Trade Commission. The fact that it was three (indistinct) is absolutely incidental. I would have done precisely the same thing today. And the fact that no change has been made in the (indistinct) I think is evidence of the fact that, that the California vinters do need a national outlet and they have it, and I'm not, er, and again I say that this is evidence of part of this sickness in Washington, that you got that crowd of young Attorneys scurrying around for anything where they can associate fact A with fact B and make some undesirable conclusion.*

## MORTON FOLLOW FOOD

At the same time - an attempt today to dramatize  
*Continuing*  
the ~~current~~ energy crisis. Interior Secretary Rogers Morton  
saying it is no joke - nor is it the result of "a conspiracy  
to withhold energy." In plain truth - he said - "there  
just isn't enough product available."

Morton went on to say: "We may not get the message  
home on the necessity for conserving energy - until we have  
such things as schools closing because of lack of fuel."

"On the long range basis" - he continued - "there's going  
to have to be a change in the American ethic. we'll have to go  
to smaller cars - people will have to turn out the light and  
turn down the heat - they will learn some harsh lessons."

## FOOD

*Here at home again - a speech today by the head of the U.S. Food for Peace program. Andrew Mair noting that many Arab nations - are heavily dependent on food imports from the U.S. Mair adding: "That's the biggest thing we've got going for us - in the oil problem."*

*Mair was later asked specifically if the U.S. might withhold its food - in order to break an Arab oil ban. His answer - a flat yes. "I don't question it a bit" - said he.*

## **BELFAST**

*Virtually the whole of Northern Ireland - was thrown into chaos today. This the result of about twenty bombings - along with fifty-odd bomb scares; in some cases - forcing the evacuation of entire villages. In addition, trees were felled blocking main highways - and more than a hundred vehicles were hijacked. According to the British Army - "the most widespread wave of terror" in four years of civil strife.*

*Most of the violence - blamed on IRA terrorists.*

*Amazingly though, there were at last report - absolutely no casualties.*

**ROME**

*From the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization  
in Rome - a report today telling of "catastrophic" drought  
in Ethiopia. The U.N. body noting that "whole communities  
have perished - and where there were survivors, many are  
destitute." It also says that Ethiopia's cattle herds - one  
of its main resources - have been "depleted by eighty to  
ninety per cent."*

## ALCATRAZ

*For the first time in its grim history - Alcatraz  
Prison was open to visitors today. Special tour boats taking  
over groups of fifty - every half-hour from nine to three.  
But the first-day crush - surpassing all expectation.*

*A spokesman saying: "It's a madhouse. We've had  
ticket lines stacked up three days - and we're all about to go  
jump off the Golden Gate Bridge."*

## CAPE CANAVERAL

*At the Kennedy Space Center - Cape Canaveral -*

*it was determined today that two buckled fuel tanks would not hinder the launch of the last sky-lab mission. Launch date is November Tenth.*

*Nasa says Astronauts Gerald Carr, Edward Gibson, and William Pogue will be aiming for a mission of sixty days - but if possible will be aloft a record eighty-five days.*

*An added attraction of this last sky-lab trip - observation of the new comet, Kohoutek, streaming its way into our solar system for a display brighter than Haley's Comet come Christmas time. This is Reid Collins for Lowell Thomas saying good night and weekend.*