

KN X - LG. May 2 - '74.
Shaw

ANNAPOLIS

By order of the Maryland Court of Appeals -- former Vice-President Spiro Agnew today was officially disbarred. The Court's action based on Agnew's previous plea of "No Contest" -- to charges of income tax evasion. It was also accompanied -- by a stinging rebuke.

The Court saying: "It is difficult to feel compassion for an attorney who is so much morally obtuse -- that he consciously cheats the government he has sworn to serve, completely disregards the oath he uttered when admitted to ~~that~~ the Bar and absolutely fails to perceive his duty to act honestly in all matters."

The President's Chief of Staff, General Haig -- was called today before a special session of the Senate Watergate Committee. The main subject ^{supposedly} ~~at hand~~ Whatever happened, if anything -- to Howard Hughes' one hundred thousand dollar campaign contribution through Bebe Rebozo?

General Haig -- refusing, however, to testify. Instead, presenting a letter from the President -- instructing him not to testify. The President saying: "It is essential to any President that he be able to talk with complete freedom and candor -- with the one person that occupies such a close relationship with him." The President thus invoking executive privilege -- for the first time since the committee began its public hearings nearly a year ago.

FORD

More on the Watergate transcripts -- from Gerald Ford, who said: "I have always believed ~~that~~ the President ~~was~~ innocent -- and, after reading the transcripts, I am convinced beyond any doubt."

The Vice-President also expressed ^{the hope} "that the House Impeachment Inquiry -- will not develop into a Democratic-Republican wrangle." "This is a very serious matter" -- said he -- "and for it to develop into a partisan issue -- would only get the House action away from the facts."

TEL AVIV

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger arrived today in Tel Aviv -- and immediately made an attempt to allay Israeli fears. In an airport statement, saying: "I come here again -- in the same spirit of friendship that has always characterized our relations." "I come here" -- he continued -- "not to discuss concessions but to discuss security." "The issue" -- he added -- "is not pressure but a lasting peace." Dr. Kissinger then conferring with Israeli leaders -- on how best to bring about a disengagement of troops on the Golan Heights; attempting to formulate a plan -- that he can present to Syrian officials tomorrow in Damascus.

CAMP DAVID, FOLLOW TEL AVIV

Here at home again -- President Nixon was secluded today at Camp David; there receiving a cable from Dr. Kissinger -- said to describe his mid-East talks up to now as "very useful."

The President was also getting ready -- for some political barnstorming of his own. He and Mrs. Nixon -- flying tomorrow to Phoenix; where they plan to attend a "grass roots" rally -- sponsored by Arizona Republicans. Next stop -- Spokane; where Saturday the President will formally open -- "Expo '74."

PENN CENTRAL

The bankrupt Penn Central railroad, its chief executive officers and its accounting firm -- were all charged today with fraud; for allegedly making false and misleading statements -- about the line's finances; statements said to have cost investors -- literally, billions of dollars.

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RAILROADS

From the Interstate Commerce Commission -- a blast today at the U.S. Transportation Department; for a plan to reorganize the nation's northeast railroads -- including the proposed abandonment of a number of lines. The ICC calling the transportation plan -- clearly excessive; adding that the public is not willing to accept -- "massive abandonment of rail services."

STEEL

Giant U.S. Steel -- the first of the big steelmakers to take advantage of the expiration of wage and price controls; announcing today a general price increase -- averaging out to nearly six percent; with others in the steel industry -- to quickly following suit. seven days after returning home.

PORTUGAL

The new government of Portugal today declared a general amnesty ~~of~~ for thousands of young army deserters: ~~those~~ who had fled into exile ~~of~~ rather than fight in Portugal's colonial wars in Africa. The only proviso: that they report back to their units within fifteen days after returning home.

OSLO

At Oslo, Norway -- a warrant was issued today for a young Memphis socialite. Twenty-six year old Minna Treadwell Thompson -- wanted for questioning in the garrote slaying of the wife of a Spanish diplomat.

NEW YORK

Britain's Princess Margaret and her husband, Lord Snowden
-- flew today from London to New York, ^{meanwhile they fly} ~~en route~~ to Louisville.

~~The Royal couple~~ -- planning to attend the one hundredth running
of The Kentucky Derby. While here in the states, they will
also celebrate next Monday -- their fourteenth ~~ann~~ wedding
anniversary.

Which no doubt, Bill, they'll
call the Ken. Derby!

PHOENIX

From Phoenix -- a comment today from Billy Graham -- on some of the ~~faulst~~^{salty} language in the Watergate transcripts. The famed evangelist saying: "I have known five Presidents -- and I suspect if we had the transcripts of their conversations -- they, too, would contain ~~faulst~~^{salty} language."

Billy Graham noting, however, that only one of the Presidents he has known -- has ever personally sworn in front of him; always adding -- "pardon me, Billy." Which one was it? Billy Graham saying: "I'll leave it to you -- to figure out."