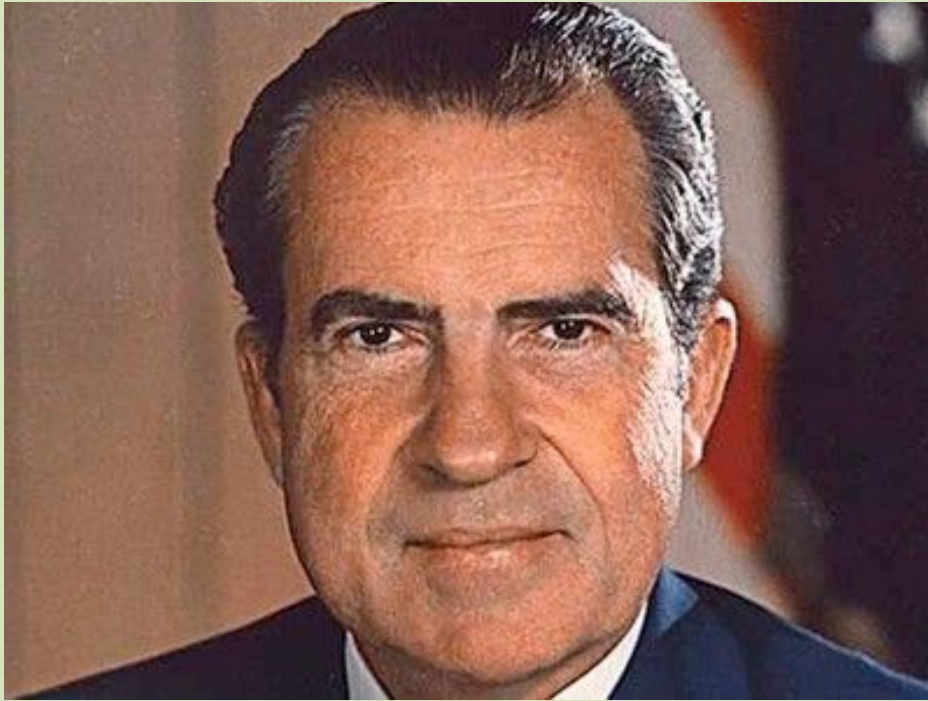
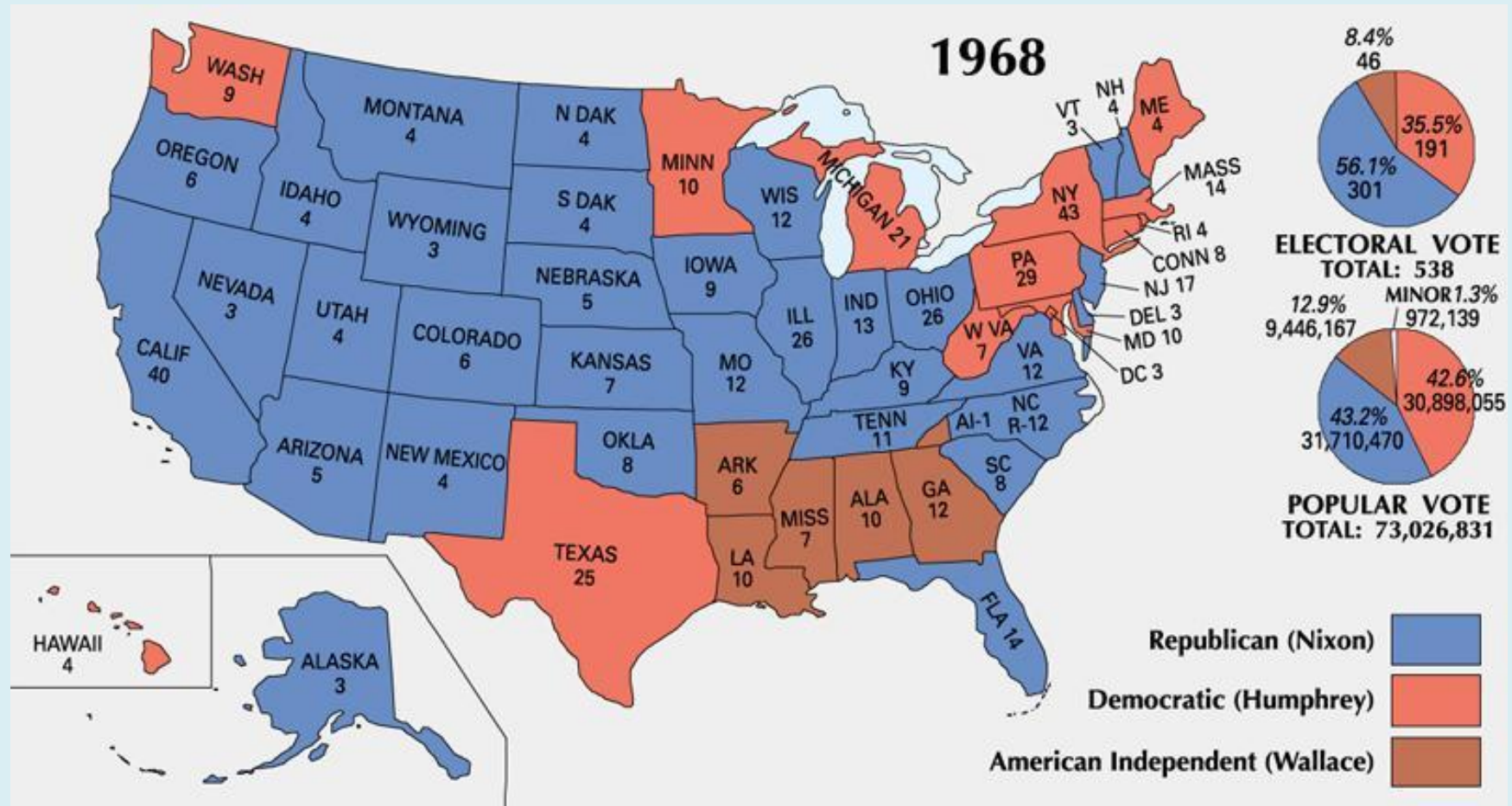


The Presidency of Richard Nixon

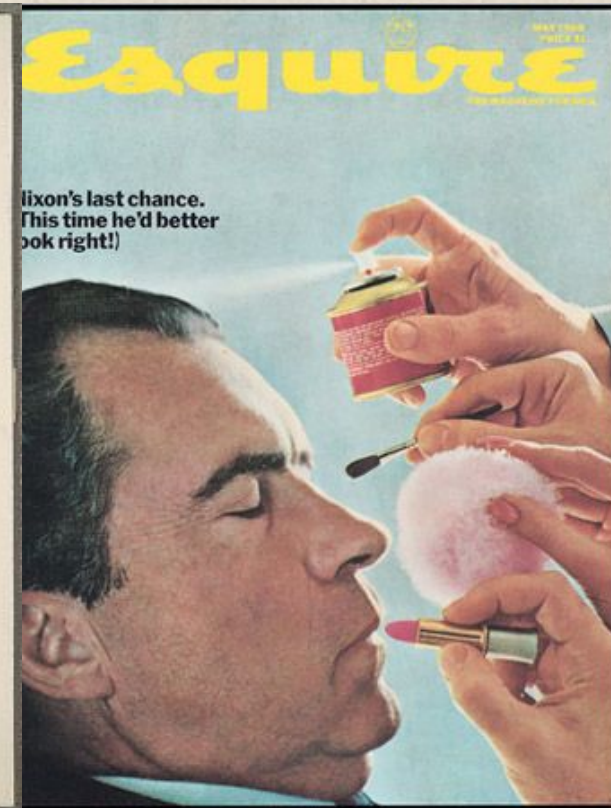
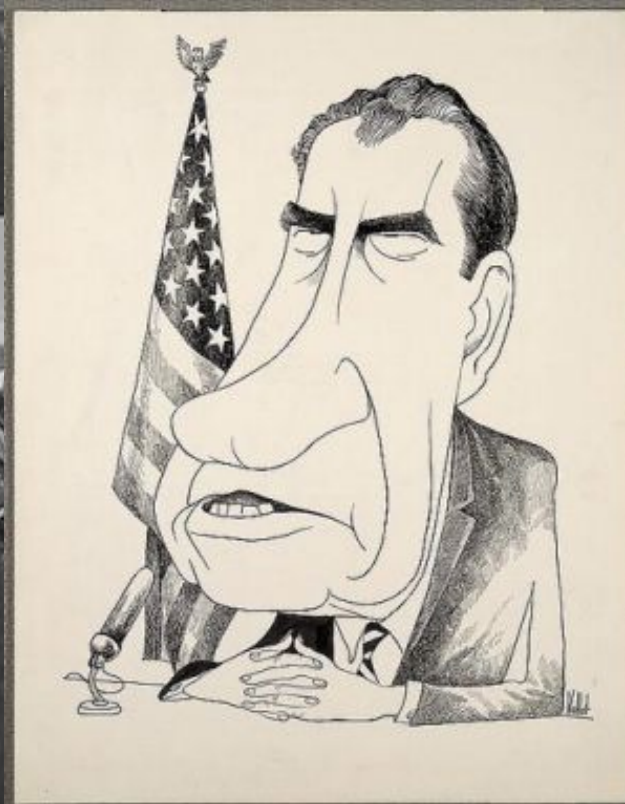


(1968-1974)

The Election of 1968



- Richard Nixon narrowly won the 1968 election, but the combined total of popular votes for Nixon and Wallace indicated a political shift to the right.



- After a decade of liberal politicians/social protest, the election signalled a turn away from liberalism.
- Nixon's win marked the start of a Republican hold on the presidency that would last more than 20 years.

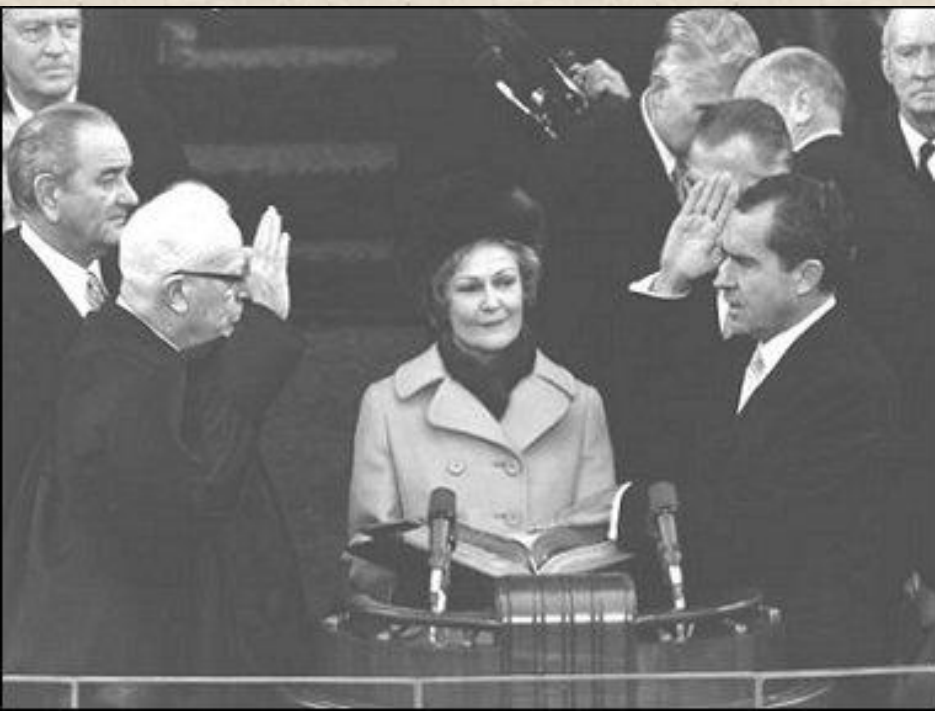
Nixon Administration (1968-1973)



- Nixon vowed to:
 - Bring back respect for the law.
 - Repair America's image in the eyes of the world.
 - Provide strong leadership to end the chaos of the 1960's

*HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT?
HMMM...*





Nixon's Inauguration

January 20, 1969

10,000 people turned out for Richard Nixon's inaugural parade in January 1969. Roughly 2,000 were demonstrators who pelted Nixon's procession with rocks, beer cans, and ink-filled balloons.



Nixon's campaign promises

- Promised to preserve “law and order”
- Called many of the social programs of the 1960s an expensive mistake, declaring it was “time to quit pouring billions of dollars into programs that have failed.”
- Pledged to restructure the federal govt.. Called for a "**New Federalism**" -- **a system which shifted money and power away from the federal govt. and toward states and local govts.** This system, asked states to take greater responsibility for the well-being of their citizens, (rather than asking the federal govt to assume this responsibility.)

The Legacy of Vietnam

- Distrust of govt. was growing
 - My Lai Massacre – conduct of the soldiers and the military cover-up
 - Continued presence of U.S.' troops in Vietnam
 - Shock of the Tet Offensive





- Increasing lawlessness
- Growing student protests & anti-war protests on the nation's college campuses

- Protest increasingly spreading from students -> veterans & average Americans
- First American loss in a war



Civil Rights



- Protests for civil rights continued into the late 1960s (in spite of civil and voting rights laws, inequality continued (both in terms of equal access to services and economic inequality), rising militancy, race riots, etc.)



Civil Rights

- Nixon was elected in 1968 with only 12% of the national black vote. During the election, Nixon challenged Gov. Wallace for the white southern vote which alienated black voters. As a result, he was regarded by many as less committed to civil rights than his predecessors.
 - Nixon had, however, supported civil rights both as a senator and as vice president under Eisenhower (remember, Eisenhower sent in federal troops to protect the students at Little Rock high school.)
- Race relations under Nixon:
 - Following Martin Luther King's assassination in 1968, race riots broke out in 120 cities nationwide.
 - In spite of the 1954 *Brown v. Board* ruling, the nation's schools were still highly segregated. (In 1968, nearly 70% of the black children in the South still attended all-black schools and northern was equally segregated.)

- In some northern cities, like Boston, black parents sued school districts to remedy the situation. In Boston, courts implemented forced busing to move students from black to white neighborhoods and vice versa. Violence broke out...
- **Nixon opposed federal involvement in states' affairs unless absolutely necessary** (New Federalism at work!)
 - His approach *called for letting states put in place their own plans for desegregation. If they didn't act, then the federal govt. would step in.*
 - The plan worked. *By the end of 1970, with little violence, only about 18% of black children in the South attended all-black schools.*



Nixon's Character

- Nixon knew it was important in politics to maintain a clean public image.
 - “In the modern presidency, concern for image must rank with concern for substance,” he once said. MEANING WHAT?
- Publicly, he positioned himself as the defender of American morality, while privately he was often coarse and profane. Early in his career, he was labeled “**Tricky Dick**” because of his willingness to do anything to get ahead in his career (a problem which would later bite him in the behind!)

- Nixon was willing to say or do anything to defeat his enemies, who included political opponents, the government bureaucracy, the press corps, and leaders of the antiwar movement.
- Believing that the executive branch needed to be strong, Nixon gathered a close circle of trusted advisors around him – gave these advisors the authority to act as needed to protect the presidency.



The Pentagon Papers (1971)



- Daniel Ellsberg (an employee of the Defense Department) leaked a 7,000 page classified document on the Vietnam War (later known as the Pentagon Papers.)

- They raised doubt about America’s justification for entering the war and proved that senior government officials had serious concerns with the war.

- When the *New York Times* & *Washington Post* began to publish the Pentagon Papers, the Nixon Administration sued them.

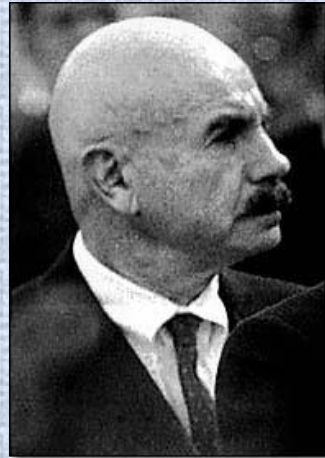
- The Supreme Court ruled that the papers could publish the documents.



The White House Plumbers

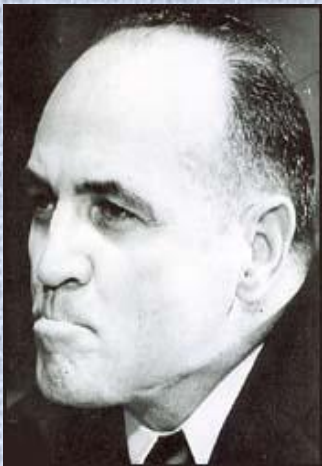


Howard Hunt



G. Gordon Liddy

- After the release of the Pentagon Papers, the White House created a secret unit to “stop the leaks whatever the cost.”
 - This unit was called the **Plumbers** because they stopped leaks.
 - They used break-ins and wiretaps to prevent new leaks and search for useful information.

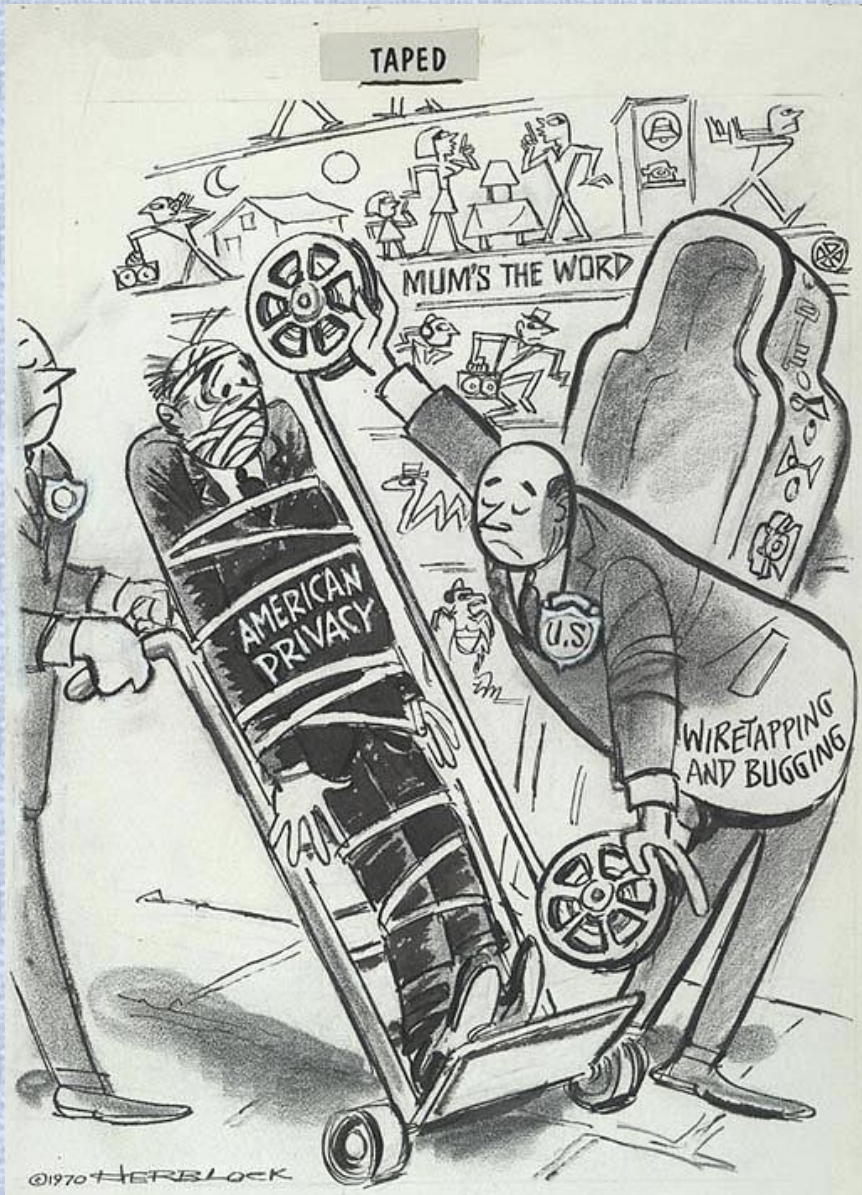


James McCord



Chuck Colson

- In 1971 they burglarized the office of Daniel Ellsberg’s psychiatrist, seeking material to discredit him. It was later revealed that Nixon’s domestic advisor John Ehrlichman knew of and approved the plan.



- In a sign of Nixon's suspicious, insecure, and obsessive nature, he was hyper focused on keeping power.
 - Frequently ignored Congress, the courts, and his own party to his own end.
- In addition to the Plumbers, Nixon's team assembled an "Enemies list," which included tv reporters, politicians, labor leaders, entertainers, university and corporate leaders. List started with 20 names and grew to more than 30,000 by the end of his time in office.
 - The Nixon admin. used the military, wiretaps, tax audits, and govt. harassment to torment people/organizations on the list.



Nixon's Re-election Campaign & the Watergate Break-in

- When Nixon began focusing on re-election in 1972, the Plumbers turned their activities to political espionage.
- On June 17, 1972, 5 men were arrested while attempting to bug the headquarters of the Democratic Party inside the Watergate building in Washington D.C.
- One of the men arrested, James McCord, was the head of security for the Republican Party. The Nixon campaign denied any involvement.

BIT #2
827-72
RGATE



This is the floor plan of the Watergate building, showing the layout of the offices and the locations of the listening devices. The plan is divided into several rooms, including the 'Democratic National Committee' office, the 'Sen. Edward Brooke' office, and the 'Republican Party' office. The listening devices are indicated by small circles and lines, showing their placement in the offices of the Democratic National Committee and the headquarters of Sen. Edward Brooke.

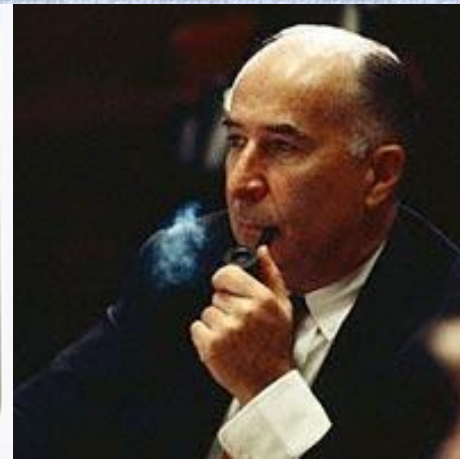
Woodward, Bernstein and the *Washington Post*



Watergate came to public attention largely through the work of **Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein**, investigative reporters from the *Washington Post*. They kept the story in the public eye until Nixon's resignation.

Watergate Enters the Nixon Campaign

- The break-in was eventually tied to the Nixon reelection campaign through a \$25,000 check from a Republican donor that was laundered through a Mexican bank and deposited in the account of Watergate burglar.



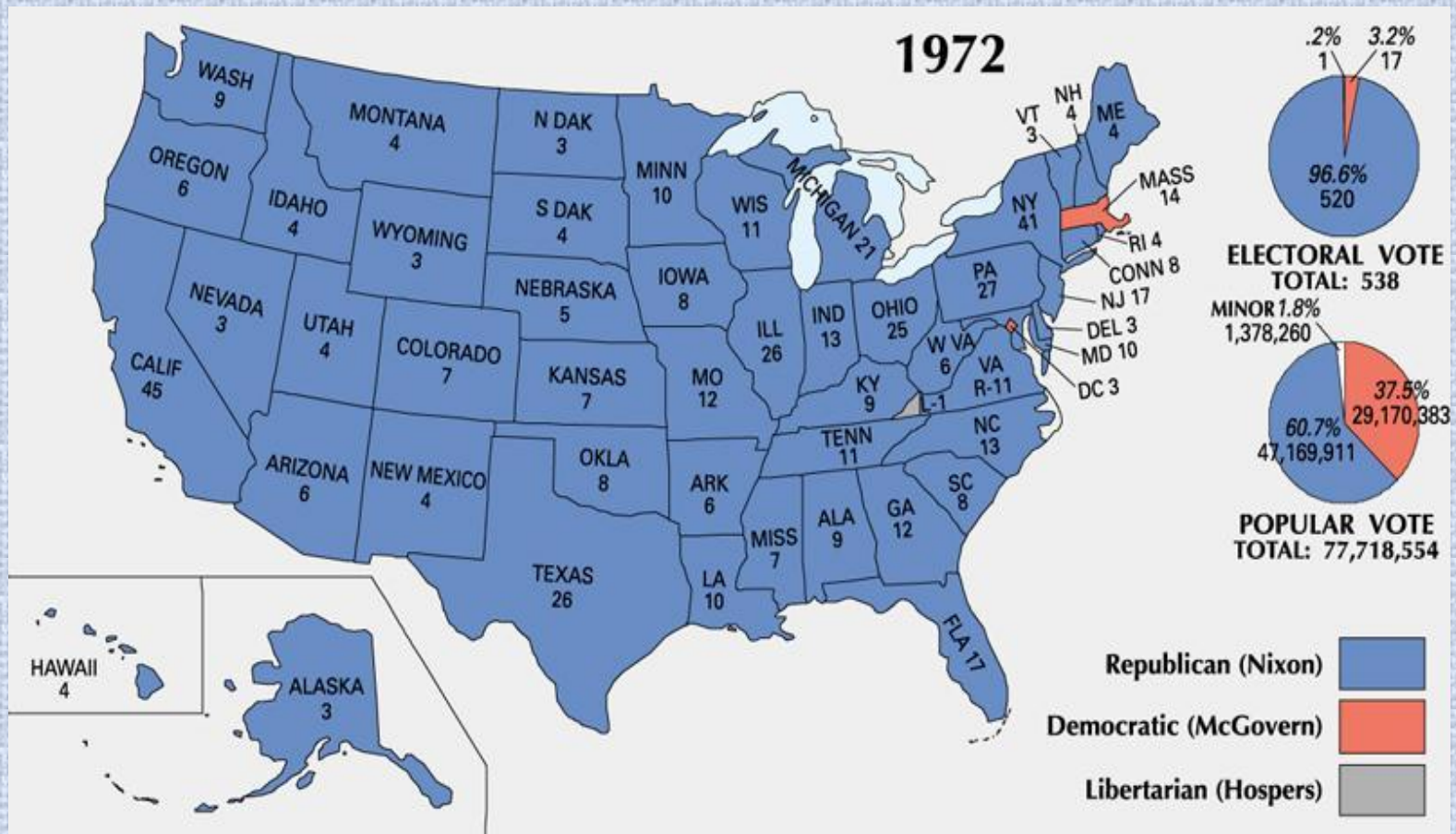
- L. Pat Gray, head of Nixon's aptly titled "Committee to Re-Elect the President," (CREEP) controlled a secret fund for political espionage. He would later go to prison for his role in the scandal.

As the 1972 presidential campaign progressed, however, reports surfaced of violations of campaign regulations and laws. On August 26, the General Accounting Office said that it had found irregularities in reports by CREEP. Democrats complained that an investigation by the Justice Department and the White House were insufficient and called for a special team to handle the matter.

Cartoon caption: "There's no need for an independent investigation—We have everything well in hand" (September 8, 1972, *Washington Post*)



The Election of 1972



Despite the growing stain of Watergate (which was not yet tied to the President,) Nixon won re-election by the largest margin in history to that point.



President Richard Nixon - Nov 17, 1973

Senate Investigation & the Oval Office Tapes

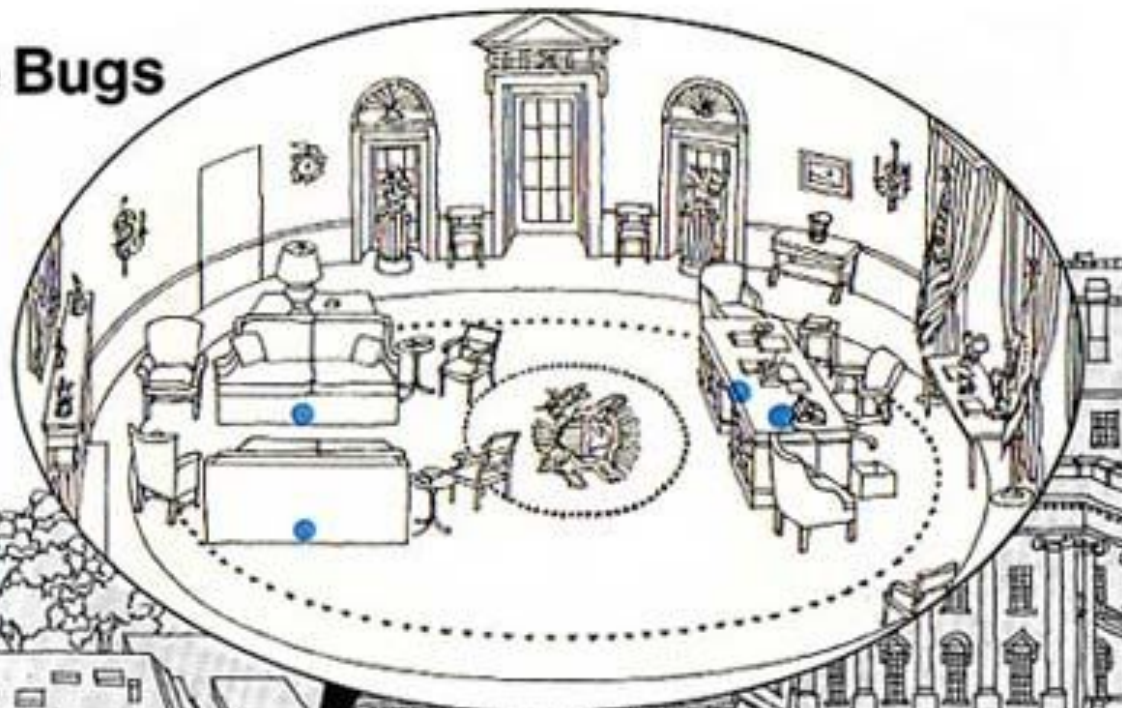


- The Senate began hearings into Watergate in May 1973.
 - The hearings were televised in their entirety and focused on when the President knew of the break-in.
- During the investigation, the Senate discovered that the Oval Office had a secret taping system which had captured key conversations. The tapes were released in August 1974 (one tape had an 18 ½ minute gap!)
 - Tapes revealed that Nixon was involved from the beginning of the cover-up: authorized the payment of hush money and attempted to use the CIA to interfere with the FBI investigation.

The President's Office Bugs



THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING



THE WHITE HOUSE

THE WEST WING THE OVAL OFFICE

● One expert's hunch about where recording devices were placed.

The Weather
Washington, D.C., Oct. 11, 1974
High 64, Low 48

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1974

New York Times Building, New York, N.Y. 10021

Nixon Says He Won't Resign



Rhodes Will Vote To Impound House To Curtail Debate

Sen. J. P. Rhodes (R-Mich.) today announced that he will vote to impound the House of Representatives' attempt to force President Richard Nixon to resign, a move that would curtail debate on the issue.



Feels Such a Step Would Be 'Outside The Constitution'

Sen. J. P. Rhodes (R-Mich.) today announced that he will vote to impound the House of Representatives' attempt to force President Richard Nixon to resign, a move that would curtail debate on the issue.

Resignation Urged By GOP Senators

Senators from the GOP today urged President Nixon to resign, saying that the president's continued refusal to do so would be a grave violation of the Constitution.

Disarm Persuades White House Staff

The White House staff today was persuaded to disarm, and the president's refusal to resign was seen as a grave violation of the Constitution.

WANTED



JAMES McCORD



DWIGHT CHAPIN



H. R. HALDEAN



JOHN MITCHELL



JOHN ERLICHMAN



MAURICE STANS



EUGENIO MARTINEZ



G. GORDON LIDDY



CHARLES COLSON



HERBERT KALMBACH



JOHN DEAN



ROBERT MARDIAN



JEB MAGRUDER



RICHARD M. NIXON



BERNARD L. BARKER



VIRGILIO GONZALEZ



DONALD SEGRETTI



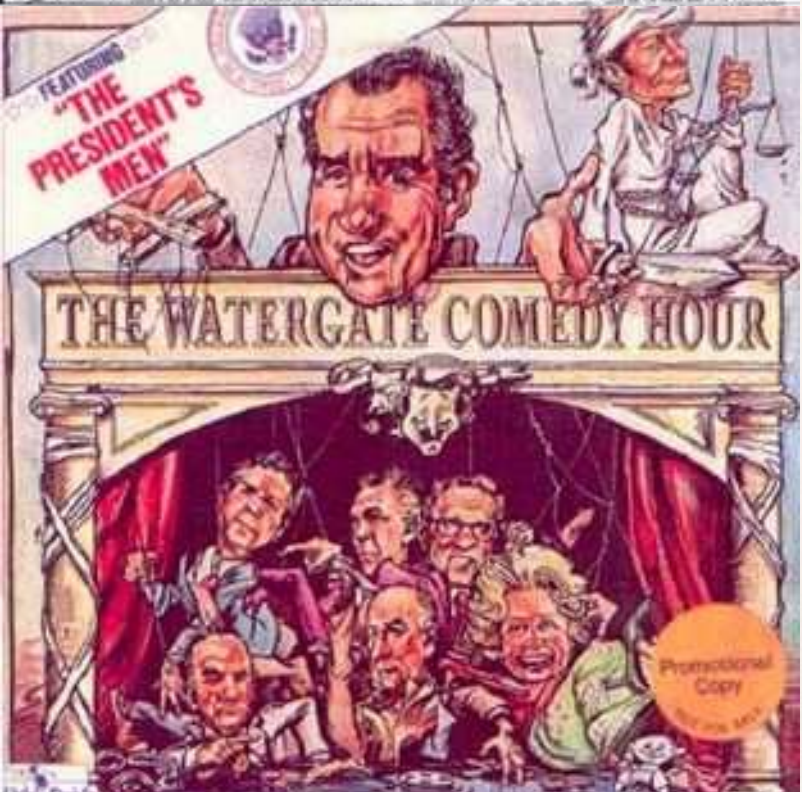
FRANK A. STURGIS



E. HOWARD HUNT JR.



HUGH SLOAN JR.



Nixon Resigns

THE WHITE HOUSE

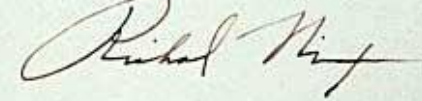
WASHINGTON

August 9, 1974

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby resign the Office of President of the United States.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

11.35

HK

- On July 27, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee approved Articles of Impeachment against Nixon.
- On August 5, 1974, when the “smoking gun tape” became public, a delegation from the Republican National Committee told Nixon that he would not survive the vote in the Senate.
- On August 9, 1974, Richard Nixon became the first American president to resign.





Nixon said, “I let them down. I let down my friends, I let down my country, and worst of all I let down our system of government, and the dreams of all those young people that ought to get into government but now they think; 'Oh it's all too corrupt and the rest'. Yeah... I let the American people down. And I'm gonna have to carry that burden with me for the rest of my life. My political life is over.”

Aftermath

- More than 30 government officials went to prison for their role in Watergate. Richard Nixon was not one of them.
- In September 1974, President Gerald Ford gave Nixon a full pardon.



Ford announcing the pardon

How do you think the Watergate affair affected the presidency in the short & long term?

The New York Times LATE CITY EDITION
 "All the News That's Fit to Print" VOL. CXXXIII... No. 61,268 NEW YORK, FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1974 11 CENTS

NIXON RESIGNS

HE URGES A TIME OF 'HEALING'; FORD WILL TAKE OFFICE TODAY

'Sacrifice' Is Praised; Kissinger to Remain

By ANTHONY DELANO
 WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—J. Edgar Hoover, the FBI director, today said he was pleased by the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon, and urged a time of "healing" for the country. He also said he would support Gerald R. Ford, who will take office today.

Mr. Ford, who will take office at 12:01 p.m. today, said he was pleased by the resignation of President Nixon, and urged a time of "healing" for the country. He also said he would support Gerald R. Ford, who will take office today.

Mr. Kissinger, who will remain in the White House, said he was pleased by the resignation of President Nixon, and urged a time of "healing" for the country. He also said he would support Gerald R. Ford, who will take office today.

Speculation Rife on Vice President
 Some Ford Associates Say Seeking a Successor Could Take Months

Political Scene Sharply Altered
 Appraisal of Nixon Career

Jaworski Asserts No Deal Was Made

The 37th President Is First to Quit Post

By JOHN BROWNE
 WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—Richard M. Nixon, the 37th President of the United States, announced tonight that he had given up the ring and a three-fingered glove to allow Gerald R. Ford, Vice President, to take office today.

Mr. Nixon, in a broadcast address to the nation at the same hour as the 37th President, said he was leaving the office of the President to Mr. Ford's second term.

Even that day when the 37th President stepped down, Mr. Nixon, in a broadcast address to the nation said that he was leaving the office of the President to Mr. Ford's second term.

Mr. Nixon, in a broadcast address to the nation said that he was leaving the office of the President to Mr. Ford's second term.

Mr. Nixon, in a broadcast address to the nation said that he was leaving the office of the President to Mr. Ford's second term.

Daily Mirror Washington, August 9, 1974
 EUROPE'S BIGGEST DAILY SALE No. 21,944
 4p Saturday, August 10, 1974

Nixon's defiant farewell

GOODBYE AMERICA!

From ANTHONY DELANO in Washington and GORDON GREGOR in San Clemente

DEFIANT TO THE END, Richard Milhous Nixon heads for private life and the sun of California.

The new first unrepentant gesture of the disgraced President as he left the "White House" by helicopter.

He was on his way with his wife Pat, daughter Tricia and her husband, Edward Cox, to the Nixon estate in San Clemente.

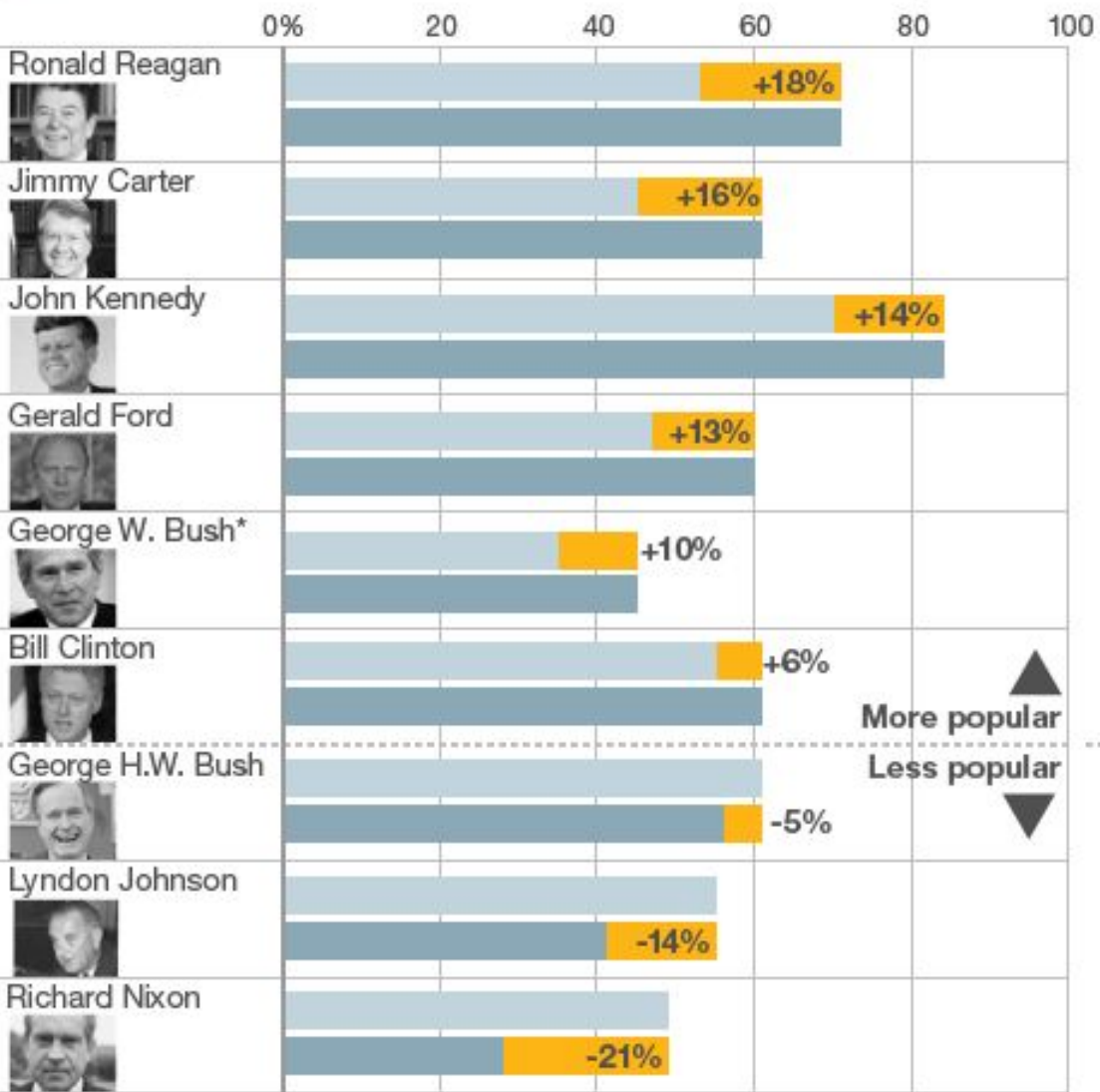
And "Yes to Me," "Tricky Dicky" (name to the last) he handed a free "M.I.C." (Milk, Ice Cream, and Coffee) to the White House as President.

But he was still President when he took off from Andrews Air Force base east outside Washington in the presidential helicopter.

Continued on Page Two

BOUVERIE'S FIVE-OUT-OF-SIX BONANZA—Back Page

US presidents' poll ratings during and after office



* Ratings for G W Bush from 2009/2010

Source: Gallup