

April 21, 2015

Richard Nixon

- Had severe mental problems
- His motto was do it to them before they could do it to you
  - Assumed that because he was cheating and doing crimes everyone else was
- Gets involved
  - Break in at Democratic HQ happens in June
  - Focused on Election victory in November
  - Had no idea break in was going to occur but began trying to do things in break in
    - Tried to buy people's silence instead of apologizing
    - Brought the issue into the white house because he couldn't leave it alone
- Every time he was on the pinnacle on something great something happened to him and it all went to hell
- Did accomplish a number of things

Sunday June 18

- Nixon found Miami Herald
  - Main headline was Vietnam and the mini headline was the democratic office break in
- June 23 Nixon met with Haldeman (Chief of Staff)
- President approved plan to deceive FBI into thinking it was CIA
- Nixon sealed his fate 6 days after the break in

Early 1973 the scandal cover up was taking up most of the white house time

- Nixon and Dean were sensing trouble in Washington

- Most immediate threat came from Howard Hunt
  - Demanded 120,00 dollars or he would reveal what he had done
  - Turning point for John Dean
  - White House could no longer keep up with Cover up
- Nixon let the cover up continue and authorized more money
  - Cover up burst wide open
  - James McCord implicated the white house in the scandal
- Nixon had asked John Dean to extricate the white house from the scandal
- Cover up was disintegrating and John Dean was worried about being implicated
  - Was warned that “ toothpaste can’t easily go back in the tube once it’s out”
- John dean revealed burglary of psychiatry office
  - Nixon knew Dean had talked to lawyers

Easter Sunday Nixon called Dean

- Nixon hoped that he could make a bargain with Dean
  - Dean has to protect the president
- Dean was struggling for immunity
- In April Hardeman and other close aides came under fire

Nixon fired all of his closest aides

May 17<sup>th</sup> Watergate break in and Nixon’s re-election was brought to court

- In first month Nixon evaded being spoken of by the initial witnesses
- Dean was first one to implicate the president in the Watergate cover up
- White House tried to spread rumors about Dean’s credibility

July 16<sup>th</sup>

- Alexander Butterfield
  - Said that there were tapes of the conversations that Nixon had with his close advisors about the Watergate cover up
- Nixon was in hospital with viral pneumonia
- He knew that getting the tapes off the table would be his salvation
  - Said that the tapes were the president's personal property or official presidential property that he didn't need to disclose them

#### Archibald Cocks

- Was given control of the paper evidence
- Requested confidential papers and was given them
- Took President to court when he refused to disclose 9 tapes
  - Nixon's refusal and Dean's testimony had badly damaged his popularity
  - Nixon tried to turn persistent questions in his favor
    - Tried to say questions were affecting his ability to govern
    - Tried to turn attention away from Watergate and to the people's concerns

#### October 12, 1973

- Jerald Ford was a viable alternative to president but was brought in as VP
- On same day court ruled Nixon had to give tapes to Cocks
  - Nixon would give summaries of tapes but not actual tapes
  - Cocks refused to the terms Nixon presented
- Nixon ordered for Richardson to fire Cocks
  - Richardson refused because he was committed to the individuality of Cocks