



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20223

Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts Branch
245 Murray Drive
Building 410
Washington, D.C. 20223

JUL 13 2007

Michael Ravinzky

File Number: 20020060

Dear Requester:

Reference is made to your Freedom of Information and/or Privacy Acts request originally received by the United States Secret Service on March 22, 2002, for information pertaining to a report on the Secret Service and the White House taping system during the Nixon Administration.

Enclosed are copies of documents from Secret Service records. The referenced material was considered under both the Freedom of Information Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 and/or the Privacy Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a. Pursuant to the Acts, exemptions have been applied where deemed appropriate. The exemptions cited are marked below.

In addition, approximately 3 page(s) were withheld in their entirety. An enclosure to this letter explains the exemptions in more detail.

If this boxed is checked, deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below.

Section 552 (FOIA)

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|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (1) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (3) Statute: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (4) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (6) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (B) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (D) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (E) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (F) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (8) |

Section 552a (Privacy Act)

- (d) (5) (j) (2) (k) (1) (k) (2) (k) (3) (k) (5) (k) (6)

The following checked item(s) also apply to your request:

Some documents originated with another government agency(s). These documents were referred to that agency(s) for review and direct response to you.

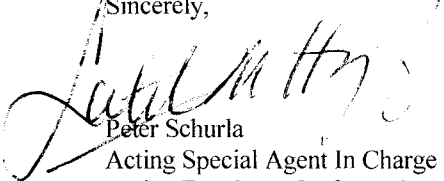
page(s) of documents in our files contain information furnished to the Secret Service by another government agency(s). You will be advised directly by the Secret Service regarding the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(s).

Other: .

Fees: .

If you disagree with our determination, you have the right of administrative appeal within 35 days by writing to Freedom of Information Appeal, Deputy Director, U.S. Secret Service, 245 Murray Drive, Building 410, Washington, DC 20223. If you do decide to file an administrative appeal, please explain the basis of your appeal.

Please use the file number indicated above in all future correspondence with the Secret Service.

Sincerely,

Peter Schurla
Acting Special Agent In Charge
Acting Freedom of Information &
Privacy Acts Officer

Enclosure: FOIA and Privacy Act Exemption List

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

Provisions of the Freedom of Information Act do not apply to matter that are:

- (b) (1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;
- (b) (2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices any agency;
- (b) (3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b) (4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b) (5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b) (6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b) (7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the information: (A) could reasonable be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication;; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonable be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of a record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b) (8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for regulation or supervision of financial institutions;
- (b) (9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

**PRIVACY ACT
SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

The provisions of the Privacy Act do not apply to:

- (d) (5) material compiled in reasonable anticipation of civil action or proceeding;
- (j) (2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) material is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive Order in the interest of national defense or foreign policy;
- (k) (2) material compiled during investigations for law enforcement purposes;
- (k) (3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or other individuals pursuant to section 3056 of Title 18;
- (k) (5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment, military service, Federal contracts, or for access to classified information, but only to the extent that the disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information to the Government under an express promise that the identity of the source would be held in confidence, or prior to the September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that the identity of the source would be held in confidence;
- (k) (6) testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process;

United States Secret Service

Director

11-12-73

AD Kelley - Protective Intelligence

621.0

Secret Service Participation in Tapings

With the disclosure of the taping of Presidential conversations in the White House made by _____ to the Ervin Committee and the events which followed, the Secret Service will document its connection with this activity. An inspector will be selected and given the responsibility of preparing a report outlining the inception of this activity which was requested by the President to the Technical Security Division through _____. The report will also include the control of the taped conversations in the White House complex and Camp Lavid, the extent of the knowledge of this activity within the Secret Service and the White House staff, and a review of the testimony given by the Secret Service on this matter during the hearings related to the tapes conducted in Judge Sirica's court.

The Technical Development and Planning Division will supply a qualified engineer to the inspector upon request if technical questions arise.

I suggest that any further contacts with the White House staff, the prosecutor's office, the Treasury Department, be conducted through this inspector and that the Technical Security Division divorce itself from any further participation in this matter. This may require that the inspector handling the report maintain an office within the Technical Security Division so that he is readily available to the staff.

The primary purpose of the report will be to bring into one document the history of the Secret Service's participation in this Presidential request. The inspector will have the full cooperation of all Secret Service employees on this project.

cc:

AD Inspection
SAIC TSD

U. S. SECRET SERVICE

Director

July 15, 1974

CO-1-23,206

Inspector

Secret Service Participation in Tapes

On July 10, 1974, the Washington Post carried a story reported by the Los Angeles Times of that date, to the effect that House Judiciary Committee lawyers were able to get an additional 15 minute segment of a White House tape when a Secret Service agent at the White House overseeing the copying inadvertently let the recorder run past the section previously transcribed. A copy of the Washington Post article is attached.

The tape in question is the March 22, 1973 EOB Office tape the additional 15 minute segment reportedly contains conversation damaging to the President.

This incident allegedly occurred on March 22, 1974 when Security Specialists and were assigned to assist representatives of the White House and the House Judiciary Committee in cueing up certain tapes for duplication.

Referred

b6
b7c

[Referred]

On July 12, 1974, the foregoing information was provided to
ATD Warner.

Inspector

Attachment - Washington Post Article
of July 10, 1974

CC: AD Kelley - ~~Protective Intelligence~~
CC: Inspection ✓

EPD:jlq

bb
b7c



Agreements	A12	1 number	C-1
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1. JULY 10, 1974

Phone (202) 223-6000

Classified: 223-6260 20c Beyond Washington
 Circulation: 223-6100 Maryland and Virginia

15c

Transcripts Link Nixon to Cover-Up

By Lou Cannon and Jules Witcover
 Washington Post Staff Writers

President Nixon, nine days after ruling that White House aides not disclose their involvement in the Watergate cover-up, explicitly ordered on March 22, 1973, that the cover-up go on, in these tape-recorded words:

"I don't give a shit what happens. I want you all to stonewall it, let them plead the Fifth Amendment, cover-up or anything else, if it'll save it—save the plan. That's the whole point."

The quote—omitted in the White House transcript of the conversation of that date—is in transcripts from the actual tapes of eight presidential conversations made by the House Judiciary Committee and released yesterday. The committee obtained the tapes from the Watergate grand jury last March 26.

In the same March 22 conversation, the Judiciary Committee version shows the President saying former Attorney General John N. Mitchell was arguing that "we use flexibility . . . in order to get on with the cover-up plan." The White House version has Mr. Nixon saying Mitchell was arguing "that now we use flexibility in order to get off the cover-up line."

In still another Judiciary Committee version filling in words omitted in the White House version, the President is quoted as telling then-White House Counsel John W. Dean III on March 13, 1973, that it was too late to exercise the option of telling all.

"The hang-out road's going to have to be rejected," he says in the Judiciary Committee transcript. The same portion in the White House version reads: "The hang-out road (inaudible)."

The new committee versions of the White House tapes—obtained from higher quality equipment than used by the White House—reveal not only omissions from the White House versions but significant discrepancies, often damaging to the President's impeachment defense.

Beyond that, they generally convey much more the image of a Chief Executive in charge than do the White House transcripts, and of a President sometimes ambivalent but ultimately moving to support continuance of the cover-up.

The transcript of the March 22 meeting by Mr. Nixon and Mr. Mitchell, as well as the transcript of the March 22 meeting by Mr. Nixon and Mr. Dean, are in the transcripts. They are

Meeting of March 22, 1973

President: ". . . all John Mitchell is arguing then, is that now we use flexibility in order to get off the cover-up line."
 —White House transcript.

President: ". . . all that John Mitchell is arguing, then, is that now we, we use flexibility . . . in order to get on with the cover-up plan."
 —Judiciary Committee transcript.

The transcript of the March 22 meeting by Mr. Nixon and Mr. Mitchell, as well as the transcript of the March 22 meeting by Mr. Nixon and Mr. Dean, are in the transcripts. They are

The Judiciary Committee's lawyers were able to copy it when
 See REPORT, A12, Col. 1
 Text on pages A24-27

REPORT, From A1
 James D. Orr, the President's chief impeachment defense lawyer, told reporters the latter March 22 conversation was omitted because it was not "materially relevant." "I would not look upon it as a redaction," he said. Of the discrepancies, he said:

Director

July 2, 1974

Inspector

CO-1-23,206

Secret Service Participation in Tapings

Reference is made to my report of March 1, 1974, on this subject, detailing activity from February 11, 1971, up through February 13, 1974.

The following activity involving this Service has taken place since February 13, 1974.

March 5, 1974

Referred

March 8, 1974

Referred Referred Referred

b2, b7E (USSS)

The usual tape duplication form was executed to document this activity.

March 9, 1974

Referred Referred Referred

March 21, 1974

b6 (USA)
b7C
b7D (USA)

Referred

March 22, 1974

b6 (USA)

Referred

B2 (USA)

b6
b7C (USA)

Referred

b2 (USA)
b7C

The Security Specialists worked on this assignment from
and at no time did they listen to any
part of the original or duplicate recordings.

March 23, 1974

b6 (USA)
b7C

Referred

Security Specialist

b6
b7c
b7d
(USS)

Referred

March 25, 1974

b6
b7c
b7d
(USS)

Referred

[] Electronics Technician picked up the machine from Bennett's office, made the necessary repairs in thirty minutes, and returned the recorder to Bennett at 8:45 A.M. noted that mechanical stops had previously been installed on the record and dictate buttons of this machine, at which time it was functioning in a proper manner.

Referred

The following tapes (or portions thereof) were copied:

TSD personnel only observed, and did not participate in any of the above activity.

March 28, 1974

b6
b7c
b7d
(USS)

Referred

Referred

Tape duplication forms were executed to document this service.

April 1, 1974

b2
(USSS)

[Referred]

b2
(USSS)

April 3, 1974

b2
(USSS)

[Referred]

April 4, 1974

b2 (USSS)
b7E

[Referred]

April 8, 1974

[Referred]

April 9, 1974

General Haig addressed a memorandum to Sims confirming Jones as custodian of the Presidential tapes. Sims did not receive the memorandum until 4-11-74.

April 11, 1974

Sims notified EPS of this custodial change, so that thereafter, only Jones would be allowed access to

b2 (USSS)

[Referred]

At 11:30 A.M. this date, the alarm covering
 went into EPS immediately responded and found the
 door locked and secure. who possessed the only
 keys to the room, was called by Sims. [Referred]
 [Referred] It was determined
 that construction work in a nearby office had caused the alarm
 telephone line to activate. The condition was corrected. TSD
 personnel then changed the combinations on the safes in the
 room, changed the door lock cores, and provided the new combina-
 tions and door keys to

This same date two tapes were duplicated at Buzhardt's
 request. The tapes are identified as:

[Referred]

April 12, 1974

and Chief Burnett, Technical Development and
 Planning Division, borrowed two Crown recorders from National
 Security Agency. These recorders were placed in a secure
 room adjacent to office, to be used to fulfill
 future tape duplication requests made by

April 15, 1974

[Referred]

[Referred]

b7c
b7d
b6

April 16, 1974

[Referred]

[Referred]

This same date, Sims assisted a White House Staff member in renting a Uher 5000 recorder from the Fidelity Sound Company in Washington, D. C.

[Referred]

April 17, 1974

Another White House secretary was given instruction by TSD on the operation of a Sony 800B recorder, foot pedal and headset, using equipment that had been loaned to Buzhardt the previous day.

April 18, 1974

[Referred]

The tapes are identified as:

Tape duplication forms were executed.

After completing the duplication of the tape, and while it was being rewound, the original tape came off the reel and became entangled on the plastic reel. Security Specialist who was handling this assignment, adjusted the tape back on the reel and asked White House Attorney (who was present at all times) to listen to the tape for possible damage.

[Referred]

b2
b7E
b6
b7C

April 19, 1974

[Referred]

The usual tape duplication forms were prepared to document this activity.

April 20, 1974

b2
b7E (USSS)

[Referred]

April 27, 1974

[Referred]

April 30, 1974

The following items of TSD equipment were returned to TSD by White House Staff members:

Sony 800B recorder	Serial #28983	No Star #
Sony 800B recorder	Serial #37286	Star
Uher 5000 recorder	Serial #232136354	Star
Uher 5000 recorder	Serial #232106930	No Star #
Uher 5000 recorder	Serial #232186427	Star
2 Uher Foot Pedals		
1 Fidelity Foot Pedal		
1 Craig Foot Pedal		
5 Sennheiser Headphones		
1 Sony Headset		

May 1, 1974

[Referred]
Sims obtained this data from EPS and furnished same to

b6
b7c
b2
b7E

b2 (USSS)
b7E

[Referred] Referred []
[Referred] Sims and [] went to [] office,
rewound the tape, played it and found the audio to be fine.
It was determined that it was a two channel tape, and that
[] had played the unused channel.

This same date, Security Specialist [] removed
the mechanical stops from the record and dictate switches
on the Uher 5000 recorder that the White House had rented on
April 16, 1974. [] reported there was no evidence
that the mechanical stops had been tampered with after they
were installed. He returned the recorder to
White House Staff member.

May 4, 1974

Security Specialist [] with authorization from
SAIC Sims, escorted [], White House Attorney, and
[] White House Technical Consultant, through
the Oval Office and the President's EOB Office,

May 5, 1974

[] Referred []
Sony 800B recorder Star
Sony 800B recorder Star
1 Sony headset
1 Sennheiser headset

[Referred]

May 10, 1974

b6
b7C
b7E

Referred

May 13, 1974

Security Specialist [] observed the duplication of
the [] tape by representatives of the White
House and House Judiciary Committee.

May 15, 1974

b6
b7C
b7E

Referred

b6
b7C
b7E

Sims and [redacted] duplicated a segment of the tape for the White House Counsel's Office. A tape duplication form was prepared to document this service.

May 16, 1974

b2
b7E
(USSS)

[redacted]

Referred
Referred

May 17, 1974

[redacted]

Referred

May 31, 1974

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Referred

A tape duplication form was executed.

June 4, 1974

b2
(USSS)

[redacted]

Referred

b6
b7C

b6
b7E

June 14, 1974

b2
6/14/74



Referred



Any further developments will be the subject of a supplemental report.

Inspector

CC: AD Kelley - Protective Intelligence
~~CC:~~ Inspection

EPD:laf

b6
b7c

Director

March 1, 1974

Inspector

CO-1-23,206

Secret Service Participation in Tapings

Referred

Subsequent testimony by White House Staff and Secret Service personnel before Judge Sirica in U. S. District Court, Washington, D. C., relative to production by the President of certain tapes of these conversations, demonstrated the need for this Service to bring together into one report the history of our participation in this activity. In this connection, reference is made to memorandum of Assistant Director Kelley to you dated November 12, 1973.

What follows is a chronological account of events, as best as can be reconstructed, of Secret Service participation in setting up the recording system, the handling and control of tapes generated by the system, and a review of testimony given by our personnel in Judge Sirica's court and in private to the Special Prosecutor's Office.

February 11, 1971

Alfred Wong, then SAIC of the Technical Security Division, met with Alexander Butterfield, at his request, in his White House Office.

Referred

b6 (uss) b7c

[Referred]

Wong then discussed the assignment with Security Specialists and and the three of them made a technical survey of the Oval Office and Cabinet Room, after which Wong and returned to Butterfield's Office and informed him the assignment could be carried out after selecting a small group of discreet technicians to install the equipment.

[Referred]

February 12, 1971

and briefed Security Specialists were assigned to install the recording equipment, most of which was on hand in the Technical Security Division. Some items were borrowed from WHCA.

Wong briefed Assistant Director Kelley on the assignment.

bc
DATE

November 1972

Louis Sims, prior to his reassignment on November 26, 1972 as SAIC of the Technical Security Division, was briefed by Wong and Assistant Director Kelley

February-March 1973

[Referred]

March 10-18, 1973

discovery of the audio equipment by their security personnel was a distinct possibility. (Wong had also brought this possibility to Butterfield's attention at the time of his original request, but to no avail.)

[Referred]

b6
pic (uss)

[Referred]

[If the request was made to [he always cleared with Sims before delivering the tapes to Sims advised to keep a record of all tapes checked out and returned. advises he never received such an instruction from Sims, but initiated his own record-keeping to satisfy himself that what tapes he did provide Bull would be returned.]

July 18, 1973

[Referred]

b6, b7E
b6, b7C

September 28, 1973

b6
b7C
(USIS)

[
[

Referred

Referred

]]

b6 b7E
b6 b7C

October 1, 1973

Referred

October 22, 1973

These five circuits were cancelled by the C&P Telephone Company on November 9, 1973.

October 30, 1973

Referred

Sims met with Deputy Director Boggs, SATS Balge, and Treasury Deputy Assistant Secretary Brent Moody to discuss forthcoming interview and testimony.

[*Referred*]

October 31, 1973

turned over to the White House Counsel, Buzhardt, an AC timer, Star number April 13 through April 16, 1973

was interviewed by Richard Ben-Veniste of the Special Prosecutor's staff in the presence of Joseph Adams of the Treasury General Counsel's Office. The interview lasted for two hours and ten minutes, concluding at 12:55 P.M. In response to questions described the taping system, including locations and dates of installation. He related that he did not write any reports on the project because he was told not to. He attempted to explain the operation of the timers that switched recording power from one machine to the other for the He described the records

*10/31/73
blm*

he kept when, prior to July 18, 1973, tapes were borrowed and returned by White House Staff members. There was considerable questioning concerning the tape covering the April 15-16, 1973 weekend (John Dean had testified that on April 15, in the EOB office, the President made remarks that implicated him in the Watergate cover-up. [

Referred

Referred

Just prior to the start of hearings that afternoon, Sims telephoned Deputy Director Boggs and the Treasury General Counsel's Office, advising that he, and would be testifying. Sims asked if the General Counsel would be representing the Secret Service, and was told by Joseph Adams that he (Adams) would most likely come down to the courthouse.

then took the stand. Sims and were excluded from the courtroom. [

Referred

testified the rest of the afternoon and the following morning (November 1, 1973). Again in response to questions, he explained the taping system, storage of completed tape reels, and the identity of others who had access to the recording equipment and the tape storage room. then produced a notebook which he made up on July 18, 1973, reflecting tapes that had been checked out to Steve Bull at various times prior to that date. testified that he had made his entries in the notebook from scraps of paper which he had prepared on the dates the tapes were checked out and returned. These scraps of paper had been retained and affixed in the back of the notebook. Under further questioning, however, he acknowledged that on June 4, 1973, he checked out 26 tapes to Bull and had no independent record of their return; and on July 10, 1973, 3 more tapes were released to Bull, again with no separate record of their return. (These examples of casual record keeping received wide press coverage, and, of all the

he he
to the

testimony given in these hearings before Judge Sirica, is probably the most unflattering to the image of this Service.)

notebook and contemporaneous records were received in evidence this date (Exhibits 7 and 7A).

November 1, 1973

Security Specialist testified. The questioning focused on the tapes covering the weekend of April 14-16, 1973, and the mechanics of the timer that switched transcription from one machine to the other. explained

It was who, on April 10, 1973, placed fresh tape reels on the recorders and who, periodically checked the tapes, made notations on the tape boxes as to usage, prior to removing tape reels from both recorders on April 20, 1973, and placing fresh reels thereon.

On this date, Security Specialists and dis-connected cables as follows:

November 2, 1973

Sims testified in Judge Sirica's court. He was asked if he could clarify records relative to tapes checked out and returned. Sims' initials appear on each page of the log prepared by on July 18, 1973, but he (Sims) testified that he had no independent knowledge of the contemporaneous notes made by when he checked tapes out and in. Sims was also questioned about the tape inventory made on July 18, 1973, prior to turning all tapes over to General Bennett. He explained that he was assisted by and in preparing this inventory, and that they attempted to list all tapes in chronological order, by location. (This inventory was made

15 16 17
15 16 17

from the markings on the boxes containing the tape reels.) Mr. Ben-Veniste, the Assistant Prosecutor who was cross-examining Sims, was attempting to establish the possibility that some tape reels could be missing.

November 5, 1973

Security Specialists and Special Agent [redacted] and [redacted] were interviewed by representatives of the Special Prosecutor's Office. [Referred]

Each explained their participation in the taping system. [redacted] assisted in installing the recording equipment, and subsequently performed maintenance and minor modifications on the equipment when needed.

Neither [redacted] were ever called to testify in Judge Sirica's court.

[redacted] related how often he checked the tapes, and his procedures when he changed tape reels (marking the tape boxes, etc.). He related his understanding of how the [redacted] timer worked,

November 7, 1973

SA [redacted] testified in Judge Sirica's court. Most of the questions concerned the same details [redacted] had given the Special Prosecutors during his interview two days earlier.

DAD Wong was called as the next witness, and he returned the next day (November 8) to finish his testimony. In response to questions, he related how the Secret Service received the assignment to install and control the taping system, the objections he made to Butterfield, and his knowledge of the mechanics of the system. Wong testified that on one occasion when Butterfield asked to listen to a tape to determine quality, the tape selected was blank and was evidently threaded on the recorder improperly. On cross examination by Assistant Prosecutor Ben-Veniste, Wong stated that on-shelf equipment was used because Butterfield wanted the system started immediately.

Handwritten initials and date:
b.v. 11/7/73

Wong responded in the negative when asked if he could identify which recorders serviced the various locations, but thought such records were available, and agreed to provide the recorders to the court, assuming they could be identified.

Referred

Sims reviewed the printouts which are maintained in the EPS Control Center, and provided the information to by memorandum dated November 8, 1973. No Secret Service personnel entered this room after July 18.

November 8, 1973

Referred

Wong advised Sims that Judge Sirica ordered that the tape recorders used in the taping system were to be turned over to the court with records showing where they were used. All but three of the machines were on hand in TSD. The three absent recorders were recalled from the Los Angeles and Detroit Field Offices, and from Steve Bull.

*b6
b7c*

Wong responded in the negative when asked if he could identify which recorders serviced the various locations, but thought such records were available, and agreed to provide the recorders to the court, assuming they could be identified.

b2
b7c
USSS

Referred

Sims reviewed the printouts which are maintained in the EPS Control Center, and provided the information to Parker by memorandum dated November 8, 1973. No Secret Service personnel entered this room after July 18.

November 8, 1973

b2 b7c
b2 b7c
USSS

Referred

Wong advised Sims that Judge Sirica ordered that the tape recorders used in the taping system were to be turned over to the court with records showing where they were used. All but three of the machines were on hand in TSD. The three absent recorders were recalled from the Los Angeles and Detroit Field Offices, and from Steve Bull.

b6
b7c
(u55)

Referred

November 9, 1973

b6
b7c
(u55)

Referred

b6
b7c
b7d
(u55)

Referred

(These two employees conducted on April 16, 1973, the date of one of the controversial EOB office tapes.)

Referred

Referred

November 12, 1973

Security Specialists and were interviewed by one of the Special Prosecutor's Office, not the FBI. Joseph Adams of the Treasury General Counsel's Office was present during the interviews. They were asked if they knew of the taping of Presidential conversations going on in Room 175½, if they had access to the cabinet in the room, or knew of the contents of the cabinet. They responded in the negative to these questions. They acknowledged being in Room 175½ for reasons other than the taping system, but stated they were never present when a tape was changed or when the cabinet was open. Their interviews lasted about 45 minutes.

Security Specialist obtained the Uher model 5000 recorder, serial number 33929, from Bull's Office. He

returned the machine to Bull the same date.

November 13, 1973

Referred

b6, b7c
b6, b7c

November 14, 1973

b6
b7c

Referred

Referred

Referred

DAD Wong, who on November 8, 1973, had been ordered by Judge Sirica to produce the tape recorders within a week, made inquiry with the Judge's law clerk as to the mechanics for complying with Judge Sirica's order, and was told that White House Attorney _____ was the person who should produce the recorders. Wong objected, based on Judge Sirica's order directly to him (Wong).

November 15, 1973

Wong was contacted by the Judge's law clerk, who advised the recorders should be surrendered to Court Clerk _____ Arrangements were made to deliver the recorders to Mr. _____ the following day.

Referred

b6
b7c

November 16, 1973

Nine (9) tape recorders were delivered to Clerk and receipted for by him. Seven (7) were Sony 800B models, identified by serial numbers 15102, 11561, 14396, 12330, 14384, 11866, and 15367. The other two (2) were Uher R-15 models, serial numbers 1002 and 1009.

Referred] This request was approved by Assistant Director Kelley, after which [redacted] told Rosenbloom what type of equipment was used to record in the [redacted] office. [redacted] also explained in a block diagram how the system was connected together. [redacted]

Referred] He was advised by Sims, through Buzhardt, that a TSD representative would have to accompany him into the office.

November 18, 1973

Security Specialist [redacted] escorted members of the White House Counsel's Office, Special Prosecutor's Office, and a group of technical experts into the [redacted] office between 7:30 P.M. and 7:45 P.M. The group was also shown the location of Room [redacted] but were not allowed inside. [redacted] responded to some of their questions, and referred them to SAIC Sims for answers to questions concerning the taping system.

November 19, 1973

Referred] Sims documented these requests in a November 20, 1973 memorandum to Assistant Director Kelley.

November 20, 1973

Referred] This request was made of [redacted] and approved by Assistant Director Kelley. [redacted] prepared a receipt for this equipment.

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[*Retired*] Security Specialist
 performed the necessary mechanics and returned the recorder to Buzhardt's Office.

surveyed the entire taping system and arrived at the following time estimates needed to reactivate the system:

Sims provided the above information to [redacted] by memorandum dated November 21, 1973, and advised that should the contemplated testing require other than Secret Service personnel entering either recording room [redacted] classified equipment would have to be removed from those rooms, requiring extensive work and time.

EPS Captain Frederick Walzel, accompanied by Treasury Attorney Joseph Adams, was interviewed at the Special Prosecutor's Office. Walzel responded to questions by giving general descriptions of the EPS Control Room, the alarm system, and the computer printout. He was asked to provide alarm history files, code numbers of the various alarmed areas, and the identification of those persons who had access to the alarmed areas. [*Retired*]

Captain Walzel was never called upon to testify in court.

[redacted] Engineer assigned to our Technical Development and Planning Division, was also interviewed this date at the Special Prosecutor's Office. Joseph Adams sat in during the interview. [redacted] was program manager during development of the White House Computerized Security System, and questions asked of him centered around the possible compromise of the system. [redacted] gave a general description of the system and when it was instituted. He explained that it would be next to impossible to compromise the system without someone becoming aware of it. His statements seemed to be accepted by the Special Prosecutor, and [redacted] was never summoned to testify in court.

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November 21, 1973

Sims advised Engineer [redacted] to alert a [redacted] of Westinghouse that should he be called by the Special Prosecutor's Office or anyone else concerning the White House Computerized Security System, he [redacted] should contact this Service before providing any information, in view of the security question involved.

Referred

Referred

[redacted] Sims informed Adams that for security reasons, Ben-Veniste had the need to know only the alarm code numbers for Rooms [redacted] the tape storage room and the computer room. Ben-Veniste already had this information. [redacted]

Referred

November 22, 1973

[redacted] AD Kelley approved this request, and Sims assigned SA [redacted] and Security Specialist [redacted] to the task. At 2:35 P.M., they met [redacted] at General Haig's Office, [redacted]

Referred

Referred

[redacted] then proceeded to [redacted] office with two Sony recorders, serial numbers 28983 and 25470. The former was used for playback and the latter for record.

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The tape was duplicated between 2:55 P.M. and 4:20 P.M. [redacted] was present most of the time, and the original and copy were turned over to him upon completion. [redacted] and [redacted] did not listen to any portion of the tape.

November 23, 1973

[redacted] Referred [redacted]

November 24, 1973

[redacted] Referred [redacted] This request was fulfilled; the recorder loaned to [redacted] bore serial number 28983. There is no record of a receipt being obtained from Buzhardt for this equipment.

[redacted] Referred [redacted] Arrangements were made to perform this service on November 25, after approval by AD Kelley.

[redacted] Referred [redacted]

The file does not reflect whether or not the above request was ever fulfilled. I contacted [redacted] on February 5, 1974, and he stated that when he accompanied [redacted] to [redacted] office on November 25, she would not permit the demonstration to take place, and [redacted] ended up providing an Uher instruction booklet to [redacted]

November 25, 1973

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(135)

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b6, b7c

day. At 9:00 A.M., [redacted] appeared at [redacted] Office to accomplish the tape filtering.

[redacted] *Refused* The tape produced by [redacted] is identified as follows:

The Security Specialists duplicated the portion between footage readings 127 and 639. They used two Sony 800B recorders, serial numbers 28994 and 28983.

[redacted] and at no time did either [redacted] listen to the recording.

November 26, 1973

Sims addressed a memorandum to [redacted] stating "Per a directive I received on this date from Deputy Assistant Secretary Brent Moody, Department of the Treasury, all future requests from the White House staff pertaining to the White House taping system are to be directed to Mr. Edward Schmults, General Counsel, Department of the Treasury."

Sims addressed another memorandum to [redacted] this date advising that computer printouts for certain alarmed areas in the White House complex, were available for review by representatives of the Special Prosecutor's Office. The Special Prosecutor had requested the White House counsel to make available printouts, dating back to April 13, 1973,

[redacted] *Refused*
[redacted] *Refused* Security Specialists performed the service in [redacted] the entire time. Two Sony 800B recorders were used; serial numbers 28983 and 25470 were used to play and record respectively. [redacted] Sims and [redacted] were present

*b2, b7E
b6, b7C*

had to listen to a small segment (1-2 minutes) of the tape to perform the requested service.

[Referred]

There is no record that the above request was cleared through Secret Service Headquarters or the Treasury General Counsel's Office.

[Referred]

Technical Security Division records showed that two of the machines were already in custody of the court. The other recorder, serial number 14423, was flown in from our Memphis Office and turned over by Sims to Judge Sirica's clerk on November 27, 1973, and a receipt obtained.

There is no record that Sims cleared these requests/directives through Secret Service Headquarters or the Treasury General Counsel.

[Referred]

There is no indication that this request was approved by either Secret Service Headquarters or the Treasury General Counsel. (This same information had previously been furnished to of Buzhardt's staff on November 23.)

November 27, 1973

[Referred]
[Referred]
[Referred] Sony recorder, serial number 29801, was delivered to along with a headset, and appropriate receipt obtained.

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Referred

was provided with the Uher machine (serial number 36380) which was on loan to Buzhardt, and a foot control which was a different model. She was informed by Sims that the Technical Security Division did not have another foot pedal or earphones similar to those that she had surrendered to the court.

November 28, 1973

Referred

Sims was contacted by James Boczar, Special Prosecutor's Office, and arrangements were made for their review.

Referred

November 30, 1973

In view of the increasing number of requests by the White House staff for the Technical Security Division services, I discussed with you the advantages of having the White House staff make all future requests for such services direct to the Treasury General Counsel, and that Sims would not act until/ unless he would hear from Mr. Schmults' Office. You approved of this procedure and advised me to work the details out with Sims and SATS

December 3, 1973

and Sims were advised by me of the new procedures, as set forth above, to be followed on future White House staff requests for Technical Security Division assistance.

Referred

Sims

advised them of the new procedure, and they agreed to make their requests direct to the Treasury General Counsel.

Referred

Accordingly, Buzhardt was provided a Sony 800B recorder, serial number 36986, and one set of earphones. There is no record of a receipt executed covering the loan of this equipment.

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was furnished copies of pertinent papers from the log book for Room reflecting entries into that room by (White House staff) on November 15, 16, and 19, 1973.

[Referred]

Sims suggested to Adams that these documents should not be furnished to the Special Prosecutor without himself (Sims) being present to explain them and answer questions. [Referred]

Sims informed of Buzhardt's staff of the above requests by Ben-Veniste, and suggested that memoranda written to this Service by Buzhardt and relative to protection of White House files be furnished to the Special Prosecutor by Buzhardt, if it were decided to surrender such documents. [Referred]

Sims furnished with copies of all documents concerning recorders used in the White House taping system. [Referred]

b2 (USSS)
b7c

[Referred]
[Referred]

b7c
b6
(USSS)

Continuing on December 3, 1973, SATS was furnished copies of documents relative to the Uher recorder used by , and memoranda showing modification of that machine.

Representatives of the Special Prosecutor's Office reviewed computer printouts of alarms in the White House complex.

continued for five (5) days, concluding on December 7, 1973, and they were under the supervision of TSD Special Agents at all times.

December 4, 1973

The Sony 800B recorder, serial number 22343, and set of earphones which had been loaned to on November 8,

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b7d

1973, and which were introduced into evidence in Judge Sirica's court on November 26, 1973, during testimony by were returned to this Service by the court through of Buzhardt's staff.

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Referred

December 5, 1973

b6
b7c

[Referred]

advised to direct his request to then attempted to call but neither he nor was available. then called and advised he would be unable to act on his request. Referred

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[Referred]
[Referred]

which obtained diagrams of the modification he made after on the Uher recorder and delivered same to Haig's Office.

Later this date, Sims met with you, AD Kelley, and SATS at which time you directed Sims to hereafter again receive all requests from the White House staff relative to the taping system and, as necessary, clear requests through Mr. Schmults' Office.

December 6, 1973

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[Referred]
provided the information to

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[Referred]

b6, b7c

Referred
Referred

Sims cleared this request with Mr. Schmultz and assigned Security Specialist to the task. used a Sony recorder, serial number 36986 for playback of the original tape, and Sony recorder, serial number 37259 to record. The duplication took place in Buzhardt's EOB Office, Present were Buzhardt, and Sims. did not listen to any part of the recording.

December 7, 1973

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Referred
Referred
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Referred

Sims advised that the questioned machine was delivered to him between 1:00 P.M. and 1:15 P.M. that date.

December 8, 1973

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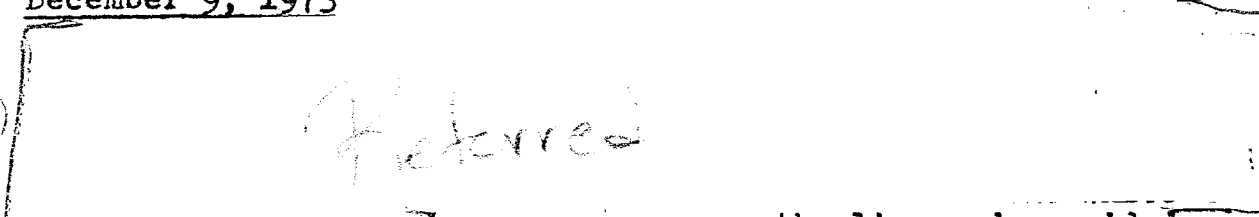
Referred

Commencing at 9:38 A.M., they duplicated portions of the following tapes:

A "Tape Duplication Form," designed by a TSD employee especially for this ever-increasing activity, was used to document pertinent information concerning each of the duplicated tapes. In addition to identifying the particular tape being duplicated, the form calls for the date and time of the duplication, recorders used, speed used on recorders, persons present during the duplication process (these persons initial off next to their printed names), acknowledgement that the original tape was checked prior to and after the duplication (in the instant cases by Buzhardt and one of the Special Prosecutor's Office), and a "Yes" or "No" checkoff to the question "Did TSD personnel monitor or listen to original or duplicate recordings?" (the answer being "No" in the instant cases). The forms are signed by the TSD personnel performing the tape duplication.

A copy of each Tape Duplication Form was provided to Buzhardt and with the original retained by Sims.

December 9, 1973



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general answers to questions concerning timers, VOX (voice-operated switches), power sources, recorders, etc. told he would review material concerning the installation and call the next day with more specific information.

December 10, 1973

and again conversed by telephone. stated he now needed to have information concerning microphones used in the taping system, and requested that a microphones of the type used in the taping system be mailed to him at his company office in Cambridge. This request was approved by Buzhardt and Schmultz, and a new microphone from TSD stock (Knowles BJ-1590) was sent by registered mail to Bolt, Beranek and Newman, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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Referred

Referred

Referred

by [unclear]

December 11, 1973

SA [unclear] and Security Specialist [unclear] were assigned by Sims to accomplish this task. (There is no indication that this request was cleared through Treasury General Counsel.)

[unclear] duplicated portions of the following tapes:

They transferred these duplicated portions onto two reels. Tape Duplication Forms were prepared for all involved tapes, copies of which were provided to Buzhardt and the Special Prosecutor's Office. Steven Bull was present during these recordings and his initials appear on the forms. [unclear] and [unclear] did not listen to any of the recordings.

December 13, 1973

Buzhardt requested TSD services to copy another tape. SA [unclear] and Security Specialist [unclear] were assigned by Sims, [unclear] in Buzhardt's Office, duplicated a portion

b2, etc
b6, etc

of an [redacted] tape dated February 28, 1973.

A Tape Duplication Form was prepared and appropriately initialed by Buzhardt and he was furnished a copy of the form. Neither [redacted] nor [redacted] listened to any part of the original or duplicate recording.

There is no record that this request was approved by Treasury General Counsel.

December 14, 1973

[redacted] The recorder loaned bears serial number 37286.

December 16, 1973

[redacted] Referred SA [redacted] was given this assignment, duplicated portions of two tapes identified as follows:

Buzhardt was present during this activity, which [redacted] Appropriate tape duplication forms were prepared, copies of which were given to Buzhardt. SA [redacted] did not listen to any portion of the recordings. There is no record that this activity had approval of the Treasury General Counsel.

NOTE: SA [redacted] evidently recorded the wrong time on one of the tape duplication forms;

are A.M. times. Sims was advised of this on February 13, 1974, and he will have [redacted] correct and initial the original copy of this form, which is filed at TSD. These

December 17, 1973

[redacted] Referred

15, 17E
16, 17E

December 20, 1973

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(USSS)

[Referred] Security

Specialists were given this assignment by Sims, and completed the work in Buzhardt's Office. Tape duplication Forms were completed and initialed by Buzhardt. The TSD employees never listened to any part of the tapes. (There is no record of approval of this request by the Treasury General Counsel.)

M.

[Referred]

[Referred] The boards were made and provided to Powers on December 21.

December 27, 1973

Sims addressed a memorandum to me advising that on October 30 and 31, 1973 (prior to interview in the Special Prosecutor's Office), Sims suggested to Buzhardt and his Assistant Douglas Parker that one of them should accompany and be present during the interview. They did not wish to do so, but advised Sims that he should accompany as his supervisor.

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(USSS)

[Referred] Due to time limitations, Sims could only give a cursory briefing to Adams on the anticipated thrust of the Special Prosecutor's interview with

Sims' memorandum further advised that on November 14, 1973,

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(USSS)

Referred

January 10, 1974

[Referred]

b6, b7C
b2, b7E

January 11, 1974

Richard Ben-Veniste of the Special Prosecutor's Office telephoned DAD Wong, requesting information as to records maintained by TSD on recorders used in the taping system, and other recorders loaned to certain White House staff members. Ben-Veniste was desirous of obtaining copies of these records.

Wong referred this request to Sims who then prepared a memorandum for Mr. Schmults, Treasury General Counsel, outlining the record keeping procedures in TSD. Sims suggested in this memorandum that if any Secret Service documents are provided to the Special Prosecutor, an appropriate Secret Service representative should be interviewed by the Special Prosecutor to explain our procedures.

[*Retrieved*]

Sims advised Adams that he (Sims) would be the appropriate person to be interviewed by Ben-Veniste, and would be available when the Treasury General Counsel and Buzhardt decided on a time in agreement with the Special Prosecutor.

January 14, 1974

Sims, at my request, asked Buzhardt to furnish him with a copy of the log and individual slips of paper denoting tapes checked out to . . . This material had previously been entered into evidence (Exhibits 7 and 7A) on November 1, 1973, in Judge Sirica's court during testimony by

[*Retrieved*]

Sims cleared this request through Buzhardt and Schmults, and instructed SA _____ and Security Specialist _____ to carry out this assignment. Working in Room _____ in _____ presence, _____ and _____ duplicated the following identified tapes:

Tape duplication forms were properly executed and initialed by _____ did not listen to any part of either the original or duplicate recordings.

*b2 (USA)
b7c*

January 15, 1974

The panel of technical experts appointed by Judge Sirica to determine the cause of an 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ minute gap in the June 20, 1972, tape reported to the Judge in open court that the gap was the result of the "process of erasing and re-recording at least five, and perhaps as many as nine segments."

[Referred]

Based on findings of the technical experts, Judge Sirica reopened the hearing and called for further testimony from knowledgeable witnesses, including Sims and

January 16, 1974

Sims was called to testify in Judge Sirica's court. He produced documents identifying those tape recorders which were in use when the White House taping system was dismantled on July 18, 1973. He was unable to state whether or not these were the same recorders that were used when the system was initiated. In response to a question as to when wires and cables involved in the taping system were cut, Sims advised he could not recall the precise date, but it would show in the "file" relating to the White House taping system. Assistant Prosecutor Ben-Veniste then asked that this "file" be made available, and Judge Sirica concurred, over objection by White House Counsel.

Further questioning of Sims mainly centered around the Uher 5000 recorder which was purchased by this Service on October 1, 1973, at the request of [redacted] Sims testified that the machine was delivered to [redacted] that date about 1:00/1:15 P.M., and its operation was explained to him. Sims produced the receipt purportedly signed by [redacted] acknowledging receipt of the recorder and foot pedal. Sims was asked if he knew whether or not [redacted] or [redacted] brought the Uher recorder to Key Biscayne during the President's visit there on October 4-7, 1973; he responded in the negative.

Ben-Veniste read from previous testimony given by [redacted] indicating that she had [redacted] bring this recorder to Key Biscayne that weekend; also that she and [redacted] upon arrival at Key Biscayne, obtained a safe from GSA or Secret Service, and had the Secret Service guard the safe around the

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clock. Ben-Veniste asked that any records maintained by the Secret Service relative to guarding this safe be made available to the Special Prosecutor. (The safe was used for storage of tapes which brought with her to transcribe over that long weekend. Copies of the log maintained by the Presidential Protective Division were obtained the next day (January 17) and provided to Ben-Veniste and White House Counsel, but there was no further questioning of Secret Service employees concerning the activity at Key Biscayne that weekend.)

On the evening of January 16, Sims was interviewed at the Special Prosecutor's Office. *Referred*

In accordance with Judge Sirica's instruction, Sims had with him the file he was maintaining on the taping system, and the file was reviewed by attorneys for the Special Prosecutor. They requested and were given certain documents from the file. *Referred*

This proved to be a point of temporary embarrassment for this Service, in that some of the news media that night reported it to be a forgery. What actually happened, as was explained by when he testified the next day, was that he signed name on the receipt and placed his own initials next to the signature. *Referred*

I subsequently advised Sims to instruct his personnel that they should have recipients of loaned equipment sign the appropriate receipt themselves.

January 17, 1974

was called to testify before Judge Sirica. Assistant Prosecutor Ben-Veniste questioned relative to his record keeping of tapes checked out to Steven Bull on various dates. (Previous testimony by disclosed that on two occasions, June 4 and July 10, 1973, he released tapes to but had no separate record to support log book entries of the dates these tapes were returned.) Ben-Veniste asked about six other tapes that were checked out to on July 11, 1973; and again, there was no documentation by showing return of these tapes.

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Ben-Veniste also asked questions concerning some of the information contained in memorandum to me dated November 19, 1973 (this is one of the documents Sims provided to the Special Prosecutor on January 16).

Sims was recalled to the stand after completed his testimony. White House attorneys and Ben-Veniste immediately engaged in an argument over the fact that when Sims was interviewed the previous evening in the Special Prosecutor's Office, the White House attorneys were excluded from the interview. Judge Sirica ruled there was no requirement that they be present, despite his own suggestion that Sims should get together with counsel from both sides to examine the documents that Sims had in his file.

Ben-Veniste questioned Sims relative to information contained in some of the memoranda that Sims had provided the Special Prosecutors the previous evening. One of these reports, dated November 26, 1973, from Sims to AD Kelley, advises of the request made by Buzhardt for TSD assistance in filtering a portion of the June 20, 1972 tape. Ben-Veniste read from other memoranda, reporting various tasks performed by TSD at Buzhardt's request.

Sims concluded his testimony by advising the Court that the Secret Service did not have any other Uher 5000 recorders at Key Biscayne on the October 4-7, 1973 weekend. (A question to this effect had been asked of Sims by Ben-Veniste during the previous day's testimony, and Sims advised he would inquire and provide an answer the next day.)

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file
copy

[Referred]

DAD Burke, Investigations, coordinated the FBI requests for interviews with Secret Service personnel and briefed each employee prior to interview on the scope and limitations of the FBI investigation. Arrangements were made to conduct these interviews at our Washington Field Office.

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file

[Referred]

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b7c

January 18, 1974

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(1000)

Referred

I discussed this request with you, and it was decided to provide these reports to Ben-Veniste and also provide, when requested, similar memoranda prepared at my request by DAD Wong, SA and ASAIC New Orleans (formerly assigned to TSD). Copies of all memoranda were given to Ben-Veniste, through Adams, and at the same time copies were furnished by Sims to White House Counsel.

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Referred

Officer [redacted] Sims and EPS were present in the room during that ten minute period.

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Referred

The above-named Agents worked at Key Biscayne over the October 4-7, 1973 weekend and participated in securing the safe containing the tapes brought to Key Biscayne by [redacted] and [redacted]. The log maintained by PPD showing entries into the safe had been brought to Judge Sirica's court on January 17, 1974, by DSAIC [redacted] PPD, at the request of Assistant Prosecutor Ben-Veniste, and turned over to the Court Clerk. A copy of the log was also provided to White House Counsel.

This date Sims provided to SA [redacted] FBI, Xerox copies of purchase orders for fourteen (14) tape recorders used in the White House taping system.

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