

(7) Disseminating information received from officers of the Department of Justice of the United States to subjects of investigations conducted by lawfully authorized investigative officers and employees of the United States, for the purpose of aiding and assisting such subjects in their attempts to avoid criminal liability.

Some of the specifics under paragraph 7:

On April 15, 1973 the President met with Attorney General Kleindienst. The President indicated that the prosecutors were investigating the delivery of documents from Hunt's safe to Gray on June 28, 1974. (Book IV, 929) On the evening of April 15, 1973 the President instructed Ehrlichman to call Gray to discuss the transfer and destruction of the Hunt documents. (Book IV, 1063-64, 1078)

Specifically, on April 16, the President told Petersen promised to treat as confidential, the information Petersen provided him. (WHT 847-49) Petersen reported to the President about information that Dean had given to the prosecutors. On April 16, 1973, immediately after Petersen's departure, the President reported to Ehrlichman on this conversation including information about the evidence against Ehrlichman and his possible criminal liability. (WHT 929-30, 935) Ehrlichman thereafter discussed this information with Colson and Clawson. (Book IV, 1321-22, 1326-30)

, On the evening of April 15, 1973 the President again spoke with Petersen and reaffirmed his intention not to pass on information from Petersen to anyone else. (WHT 966) Petersen then recounted the developments of the day relating to LaRue, Mitchell and Ehrlichman (WHT 967-69, 975-76), On the following morning, April 17, 1973, the President relayed to Haldeman information he had received the previous night from Petersen relating to Dean's meeting with Liddy on June 19, 1972. (WHT 982) The President also instructed Haldeman which coincided with the developments the President had learned from Petersen. The President instructed Haldeman to meet with Ehrlichman to devise a strategy to deal with the question of the purpose of payments to the defendants, and to communicate to Kalmbach who was scheduled to be called before the Grand Jury, that LaRue had talked freely (WHT 983)

, On April 17, 1973 the President met with Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Ziegler and relayed information relating to the Watergate investigation that he had received in the previous two days in confidence from Petersen, including the fact that the upcoming Grand Jury testimony of Strachan and Kalmbach would be critical to a determination of Haldeman's criminal liability. The President encouraged Haldeman and Ehrlichman to deal with their position on the raising of funds for the defendants. (WHT 994)

, On April 17, 1973 the President met with Petersen, who reported on the latest developments in the Watergate investigation. Petersen told the President that Haldeman and Ehrlichman might be named as

unindicted co-conspirators when Magruder was indicted. (WHT 1087-89)
He also reported that Gray admitted receiving and destroying the Hunt files and that Dean's lawyers had threatened to try the Administration in Dean's defense. (WHT 1097-98) On April 17, 1973, one minute after the end of his meeting with Petersen, the President met with Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Ziegler and disclosed to them the information he acquired from Petersen. (WHT 1116-17)

On April 25 and April 26, 1973, the President directed Haldeman to listen to the tape recording of March 21, 1973 and report to the President. (Book IV, 1558, 1560, 1562) By April 25, the President had been informed by Petersen that Haldeman was implicated in various aspects of the Watergate matter; that the question of the payments to the defendants was a critical area; and that Haldeman's involvement in this matter was being closely investigated.

On April 25, 1973, the President provided Haldeman with access to Presidential tape recordings whose existence he did not disclose to the prosecutors, in order to enable Haldeman to prepare a strategy for meeting whatever disclosures Dean might make to the prosecutors. (Book IV 1560, 1569)