

Module 10: How Will Historians Treat Richard Nixon?

Evidence 25: First Statement on Watergate: President's News Conference, June 22, 1972

A

Question to Consider

- How does the evidence below refute or support the views of the three historians outlined in the Conclusion of this module?

Document

BUGGING OF DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS

Q. Mr. [Lawrence] O'Brien has said that the people who bugged his headquarters had a direct link to the White House. Have you had any sort of investigation made to determine whether this is true?

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Ziegler and also Mr. Mitchell, speaking for the campaign committee, have responded to questions on this in great detail. They have stated my position and have also stated the facts accurately. This kind of activity, as Mr. Ziegler has indicated, has no place whatever in our electoral process, or in our governmental process. And, as Mr. Ziegler has stated, the White House has had no involvement whatever in this particular incident. As far as the matter now is concerned, it is under investigation, as it should be, by the proper legal authorities, by the District of Columbia police, and by the FBI. I will not comment on those matters, particularly since possible criminal charges are involved.

Source:

Obtained courtesy of John Woolley and Gerhard Peters at The American Presidency Project, University of California at Santa Barbara,
<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu>.