

Date: 1972-08-01

Time: 10:33-11:50

Participants: Richard M. Nixon, H. R. "Bob" Haldeman

Location: Oval Office

Tape: 758-011

SCROLLER TITLE: "How Much Money Is Involved?"

SCENE SETTER: President Nixon asked White House chief of staff H. R. "Bob" Haldeman about the sources and uses of funds connected to the financing of operations in the Watergate scandal. Disbursement of the money out of the Committee to Re-Elect the President was, as Nixon put it, "a very bad place to have it, Bob."

President Nixon: It's just [Jeb S.] Magruder's a guy who [*unclear*]. He's a decent fellow. [John B.] Connally apparently—I think Magruder . . . just couldn't possibly be . . .

He [Magruder] thinks [Hugh W.] Sloan [Jr.] pocketed the money?

H. R. "Bob" Haldeman: He can't understand where it all went. There's something confusing apparently to Jeb.

President Nixon: [*Clears throat.*] How much money's involved? Is it a lot?

Haldeman: A couple hundred thousand [dollars]. It's two or three hundred thousand.

President Nixon: Well, then [*unclear*] somebody stole it, too.

Haldeman: Well, it wasn't just for this operation. It was for other stuff.

President Nixon: Oh, I see, that whole . . . I see. [*Pause.*] And we're continuing to get information from other sources, I suppose.

Haldeman: For some.

President Nixon: Huh?

Haldeman: Some.

President Nixon: Not much. That was a very bad place to have it, Bob.

Haldeman: [*Unclear.*]

President Nixon: To have that sort of operating in the Committee [to Re-Elect the President].

Haldeman: Sure. Except this was something John [N. Mitchell] was after, apparently.

President Nixon: Mitchell? That's what I think.

Haldeman: On the finance thing [*unclear*].

President Nixon: Yeah, the idea of getting their contributors.

Haldeman: Well, he had some [*unclear*] on who it was or where it was coming from or something. He thought he had something. There probably is something on the [*unclear*] [*President Nixon attempts to interject*] money sources business or something.

President Nixon: Yeah.

End of excerpt.

CITATION: "Richard M. Nixon and H. R. 'Bob' Haldeman on 1 August 1972," Conversation 758-011, Draft Transcript, Presidential Recordings Program, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia.