

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*File 174*

January 29, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Attached is the brief ending prepared by  
Dave Gergen which we discussed last  
night.



Al Haig

Attachment

Let me turn, in conclusion, to an issue that troubles many of you tonight.

For more than a year and a half, Watergate has hung over our national life like a dark, ominous cloud. We have been deluged with headlines and investigations. There have been five grand jury investigations, over a half-dozen Congressional investigations, more than a thousand hours of public testimony, and countless other private interrogations.

As your President, I share with you one desire: to bring this matter to a prompt but just conclusion.

I have personally made major efforts to cooperate with the Special Prosecutor and many others who have tried to get at the truth. I have already provided the Special Prosecutor with all the evidence he needs to determine what I knew about Watergate and when I knew it. That information fully supports my public statements. Now the time has come for the Special Prosecutor to conclude his investigations and proceed with his prosecutions.

The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives is also charged with investigating this matter. For the good of the Nation, it is imperative that they too proceed with dispatch. I pledge to you that I shall cooperate as fully as I can, consistent with the constitutional responsibilities of my office.

In November of 1972 the American people elected me to carry out those responsibilities in a way that would strengthen our chances for achieving genuine prosperity in a time of peace. I intend to complete this task and to devote my full energies during the next three years to fulfilling those wishes.

The challenges we face in achieving the goals I have set forth tonight will require the full measure of our collective talent and wisdom.

With your help, with the help of the American people, and with the grace of God, we can clear away the clouds and make the 200th birthday of this great Nation the dawn of a bright, new age for America.

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