Get the real story with Ends of Power

By Bob Wasserman

The newest addition to the Watergate expose library has just been released by former White House Chief of Staff H.R. Haldeman. The book, *The End of Power*, was first published and reported on by the Washington Post, which brings to life one of the most curious incidents of Watergate-the story of the book which started the whole Watergate scandal.

It seems that a Post reporter, Nancy Collins, used some of her non-source material for a large segment of the book which the Washington newpaper featured last Thursday. The story was "stolen" from a book written by The New Times Syndicate which has originally scheduled publication of the book for March. The Washington paper even scooped its own sister publication, Newsweek, which had bought the rights from the Times.

Haldeman's book itself is quite amusing. Haldeman lays most of the blame for the Watergate break-ins on Nixon's grudge against former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Watergate. "I have no doubt that Nixon was the one who decided to go ahead and bornb the Chinese and the US, too."

One of Haldeman's most dramatic statements concerns the Demo- crat's plotting in the Watergate story. Haldeman writes: "I believe the Demo- cratic high command knew the break-in was going to take place, and let it happen," lure. But, that was a pretty debatable thing for the Democrats to do, wasn't it? Perhaps the Democratic HQ should plant something in the Post to disprove it completely, immediately, and obviously.

Haldeman also blames a different villain in the Watergate scandal: Charles Colson. Haldeman accuses Colson of "encouraging the dark impulses in Nixon's character."

Of course, the reader can easily see why the White House were over their crew cut desk in no time. Colson is currently a born-again social worker, and he called the Haldeman story "the biggest hoax since Clifford Irving." Well, Colson's obviously not going to concede to it all, even for his own found belief.

The *End of Power* also tells some interesting anecdotes about US nuclear war planning. In 1969 the Soviet Union wanted to use nuclear weapons to attack Chinese atomic plants near the Sino-Soviet border. The US called the White House in hopes of drawing the US into the Chinese war. Colson is currently a born-again social worker, and he called the Haldeman story "the biggest hoax since Clifford Irving." Well, Colson's obviously not going to concede to it all, even for his own found belief.

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