



**ON THE LINE**  
Bob Considine

In our whole blinking history has there been a period during which more public officials have been subpoenaed, indicted or under investigation?

The cases range from the presidency down through a dozen of his once most trusted friends and advisers. The lists include the vice president, two indicted former cabinet officers, and a charge against a third ex-cabinet member that he callously okayed the dropping of 100,000 tons of bombs on Cambodia without the public's knowledge. Into all of this vortex of court and congressional actions, and threatened actions, you can throw a judge or two, a sprinkling of mayors, a passel of POWs and a few heads of public-owned giant corporations.

It requires good eyesight and sensitivity to find good news these days. The price of silver linings, like that of gold, has gone to pot. But a persevering search for good news to offset the bad roots up some examples. Let's take the bad news first:

The Senate Watergate Committee, now back home and taking bows, has filed its second and sterner suit in Federal District Court to compel President Nixon to cough up those tapes. Bad.

But a poll taken by the foreign correspondents of the New York Times shows that the President is just about as much respected overseas as he was at the peak of his popularity — after Peking and Moscow. Good.

Vice President Agnew, a prime believer in his boss' innocence, apparently distressed him deeply by insisting on meeting the press face-to-face to denounce as "damned lies" the kickback charges being leveled against him in Maryland. There were said to have been angry words. Bad.

But reaction to the news conference heavily favored the vice president's gut performance. And Frank Sinatra invited him to fly out to his home on the range, in Palm Springs, to relax and play some private golf. Good.

Former Attorney General John Mitchell and Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans, both disputed by certain witnesses before the Ervin committee, face trial in the Vesco case. Bad.

But more recent scandals in high places have taken some of the heat off them. And Martha's telephone seems to have been temporarily disconnected. Good.

Former Defense Secretary Mel Laird and current and retired Pentagon brass hats knew all about those clandestine air raids on Cambodia, despite righteous denials when first exposed in the free press. Bad.

But they explained that they couldn't very well let the taxpayers in on these nefarious attacks — carried out in 3,630 B-52 sorties that dropped 100,000 tons of high explosives on that thatch-roofed land — because their orders "from higher up" were stamped: "Top Secretive-Sensitive-Noform Eyes (no foreign peepers) -Only Absolutely for Eyes of Addressee Only." So, that's good?

No, it isn't. So here are two good items to offset it:

\* The United States Army in West Germany has decided to stop spying on its own troops.

\* A Houston spider named Arabella, who is a passenger aboard Skylab II, is building a better web every day, weightless as she is — 280 miles above the earth and traveling at 17,000 miles an hour.

Also, times have changed to the point where Hank Aaron will be hailed as a national hero when he breaks Babe Ruth's home run record — Whereas there were cries that Jack Johnson should be lynched for winning the heavyweight championship from a white man.

Also, the cops have caught two of the perverts in that Houston massacre ring, and the other is stone cold dead in his grave.

So, as you see, there are compensating sides to all sorrows.

I guess . . .

**St. Joseph Sisters Set Festival for Sept. 8-9**

The Sisters of St. Joseph will have their annual Fall Festival at the Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8-9.

The festival originated as a supper sponsored by the Sisters and was held at Nazareth Academy. As it grew it was moved to the Motherhouse grounds.

Both days will open with Mass in the Motherhouse chapel, 4 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday and from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Festival booths will be open from 4 to 9 p.m. Saturday and from 2 to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

One of the unusual aspects of the festival is that booths will be operated by the Sisters in conjunction with the parishes to which they belong.

Sister Mary David McCall, chairman, said that the "festival



Sisters M. David, left, and Gilmory

could not even be thought about without the cooperation and help of the people in the respective parishes.

In addition to festival booths, featuring typical outdoor foods and carnival games, the Sisters will offer for sale homemade

afghans, aprons, candles, plaques and banners.

Proceeds go to the needs of the congregation such as the support of the infirm and retired Sisters at St. Joseph Convent and to the education and services provided for the Sisters.

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