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ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING  
E.O. 12356, Section 1.1

By RJP, NARS, Date 4/6/87

October 7, 1968

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman  
FROM: Rose Mary Woods

Ev Hart called the New York office for me today and I returned the call from the plane while we were in Washington, D. C.

He said: "I wanted to call you about that thing that happened on Friday (the Pearson column). As far as the story is concerned -- it really happened.

"About three weeks ago I talked with a fellow that I know - he is a lawyer - an acquaintance - and we got into the usual conversation about what RN is really like. You know how people ask whether in private a person who is in public life beats his wife - or drinks too much -or what-have-you. I said there is nothing like that at all. I said there are probably one or two little instances - I quoted that one incident - never thinking that it was going any further than the guy I was talking to.

"Of course, what he or Pearson did was to take that little story and build a whole article about it.

"I was floored by the whole thing, particularly where they said I had been approached by one of his law partners. That

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was completely wrong. What happened there -- he asked me whether I was going to do any work for him this year. I said well a friend of mine was trying to arrange something with a lawyer but I didn't think I would work this year. I will not be because of personal reasons -- I am leaving later this afternoon to go into the hospital for about 10 days for an operation. But I did not tell him it was for personal reasons. So he just mixed that all up.

"But as to the story -- RN did hit me. (Here rmw said - who was in the studio? He said - just myself and some newspaper men - a couple of the newspapers carried it the next day.

"I was really mad because I had had a rib removed when I had had open heart surgery and that is where he hit me -- in the ribs. Ted Rogers was up in the control room watching this thing. The Boss apologized but I was so upset and the show was going to last four hours so I went up to Ted and said I am going on out to Los Angeles. I flew out with Jim Bassett instead of waiting to come with the group.

"I will tell you how upset I was about it -- the day after the election in Los Angeles most of us were asked to come by - I don't know but I believe we were getting little campaign gifts or something. I didn't go in and I didn't come back on the plane to Washington with you."

At this point rmw said -- what was the name of the lawyer? He said - "I would rather not say." rmw said -- well he probably made some money on that story. He said I don't think he would be after money - he makes good money and he lives at the UN PLAZA. He repeated that he had told him this three to three and one-half weeks ago. When he saw the column he realized that it must have been a set up.

We talked about his going into the hospital for a few minutes and then I said -- don't you really think you should tell me the name of the man -- he said Freidberg.

In case anyone else wants to talk with him -- I don't know why -- but he will be in University Hospital for the next ten days.