





**At the Watergate hearings**

**Testimony from a real bugging expert**

By Ralph Novak

NEW YORK — (NEA) — Sen. Ervin: Now ah've noticed that our ratin' has been laggin' a mite lately and while ah may be just a poor old country lawyer, ah still remember the old sayin' we had back in North Carolina, "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too."

Mr. Dash: What does that have to do with anything, Mr. Chairman?

Sen. Ervin: Nothin', really, but it's gettin' harder and harder for me to keep comin' up with these sayin's all the time. Anyway, ah want y'all to welcome to the committee room today a special surprise witness, and ah'll ask the witness to identify himself.

Witness: My name is Mike O'Plasma. Until recently I lived at the White House, where I worked as a bacterium that was causing President Nixon's viral pneumonia. I am presently unemployed.

I would like to state at the outset that I came here of my own free will and the fact that the committee had to go to a suburb of Timbuktu to find me does not prove I was reluctant to testify. Now I have a 4,733-page statement — elegantly bound in moroccan leather, incidentally — that I would like to read but it would take me four months, so I have agreed to skip that part and go right to the questions.

Sen. Inouye: Now, Mr. O'Plasma, please don't think I am being unduly harsh or implying any guilt on your part; we're just trying to ascertain the facts. But can you tell us just exactly what your role was in the Watergate break-in, the cover-up, the dirty tricks and the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Mr. O'Plasma: At those particular points in time, of course, I was busy working on the pneumonia campaign, so I had no personal involvement whatsoever in any of those activities, whatever they may

**Photo Girl Admits To Prostitution**

MIAMI (UPI) — Mary Vecchio, the terror stricken teen-ager who was photographed kneeling over a victim in the Kent State shootings three years ago, pleaded guilty to a charge of offering to commit prostitution.

Miss Vecchio, now 17, was given credit for spending one day in jail, fined \$50 and released.

She was arrested Friday night by two Miami detectives who said she had solicited them and accepted \$20 for prostitution.

The 5-9, 170-pound girl was present on the campus at Kent State University in Ohio the first week in May, 1970. When four students were shot and killed by National Guardsmen May 4, a photographer caught her kneeling in anguish over one of the victims, Jeffrey Miller.

The photograph, which won the Pulitzer Prize, appeared on the front pages of newspapers throughout the world and on the cover of Newsweek.

She was a 14-year-old runaway at the time and her parents, residents of a Miami suburb, recognized her picture. They traced her to Indianapolis, Ind., and she was returned home to Opa-Locka, Fla.

She resumed her ninth grade classes at a junior high school but later dropped out. She had run-ins with the authorities the past few years and in 1971 a judge committed her to a brief stay at Kendall Children's Home for Wayward Youngsters.

Miami police said Miss Vecchio was spotted this week near a motel north of the downtown area, apparently soliciting for prostitution.

**TV Log**

- 6:30
- 4-Price Is Right
- 7-I Dream of Jeannie
- 10-To Tell the Truth
- 7:00
- 4-Baseball World of Joe Garagiola
- 7-Rookies
- 10-Gunsmoke
- 7:15
- 4-Baseball
- 8:00
- 7-Movie, "That's My Boy"
- 10-Here's Lucy
- 8:30
- 10-Doris Day
- 9:00
- 10-Medical Center
- 10:00
- 6,7,10-News
- 10:30
- 4-Johnny Carson
- 10-Movie, "Young at Heart"
- 10:45
- 7-Bonanza
- 11:45
- 7-Geraldo Rivera-Goodnight America
- 12:00
- 4-News



that what you're trying to tell me and my fans — I mean the committee?

Mr. O'Plasma: In retrospect, of course, I can see the error of my ways but at the time I thought I was doing my job.

Sen. Ervin: Don't you know that it is the duty of every man, woman and bacterium to defend the Confederacy, er, uh, the Union? Well, anyway, it's Sen. Montoya's turn. Sen. Montoya? Joe? Sen. Montoya? Someone wake him up, please.

Sen. Montoya: Ahem — wake up, shave, brush teeth, put on blue socks and grey... Wait a minute; I seem to have brought in the wrong index cards. I'll have to pass.

Sen. Gurney: I have just one question: Isn't it true that a President can't be expected to know everything that is going on in his own lungs and that you, for instance, could have been planning to cause viral pneumonia in Raquel Welch for all he knew?

Mr. O'Plasma: That's true but I didn't know she was on the list of enemies.

Sen. Ervin: We'd like to talk to you futher but Sammy Davis Jr. is scheduled to testify next and we can't keep him waitin'. Ah want to thank you for your frank and forthright testimony and ah just think it's a shame that a fine upstanding virus such as yourself has to get mixed up in something like this. Ah will try to think of an old backwoods sayin' about bacteria to insert in the record latak on.

Mr. O'Plasma: It is, as I see it, to cause disease.

Sen. Baker: Do you mean to say that it never occurred to you to pause on up to the President's brain and let him know what was going on? Is

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

be. However, I did at one point overhear a passing streptococcus mention he heard Jeb Magruder tell Hugh Sloan that Bob Haldeman had told him John Dean said it was all John Mitchell's fault.

Sen. Inouye: Including Pearl Harbor?

Mr. O'Plasma: To the best of my recollection.

Sen. Weicker: Can you tell us how well you know President Nixon?

Mr. O'Plasma: I have only known him for the months of my incubation period but you could say that I know him inside out.

Sen. Weicker: Then what is your impression — based on what you know from your own experience and what you may have learned from other bacteria you met in the course of your work — about whether

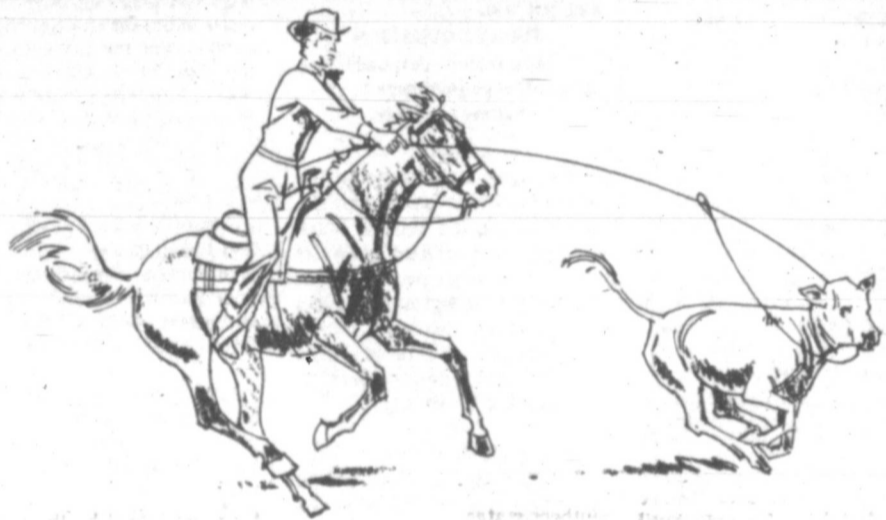
there was any prior knowledge of the Watergate affair in the President's mind?

Mr. O'Plasma: All I can say about that is what I saw and I saw absolutely no knowledge in the President's lung.

Sen. Baker: Now if you'll allow it I would like, in my own humble way, to pose a probing moral-philosophical-metaphysical question that is not unrelated to this inquiry though it isn't exactly related, either. Can you tell us, in 25 words or less, what you believe to be the role of a bacterium in terms of the Constitution?

Mr. O'Plasma: It is, as I see it, to cause disease.

Sen. Baker: Do you mean to say that it never occurred to you to pause on up to the President's brain and let him know what was going on? Is



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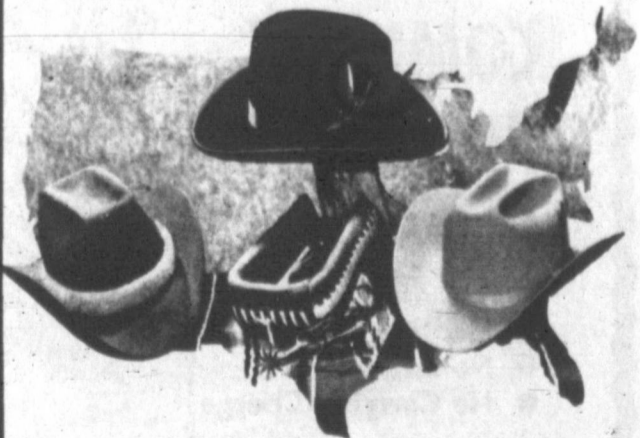


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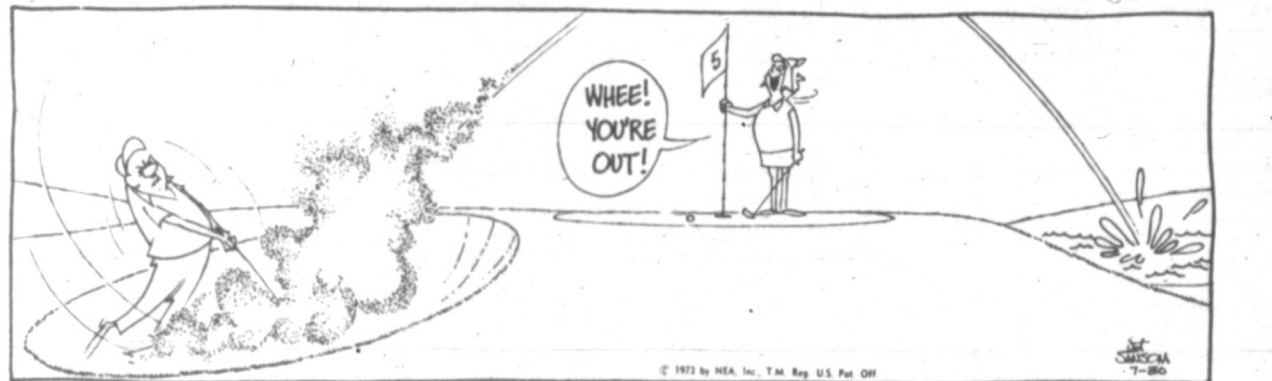
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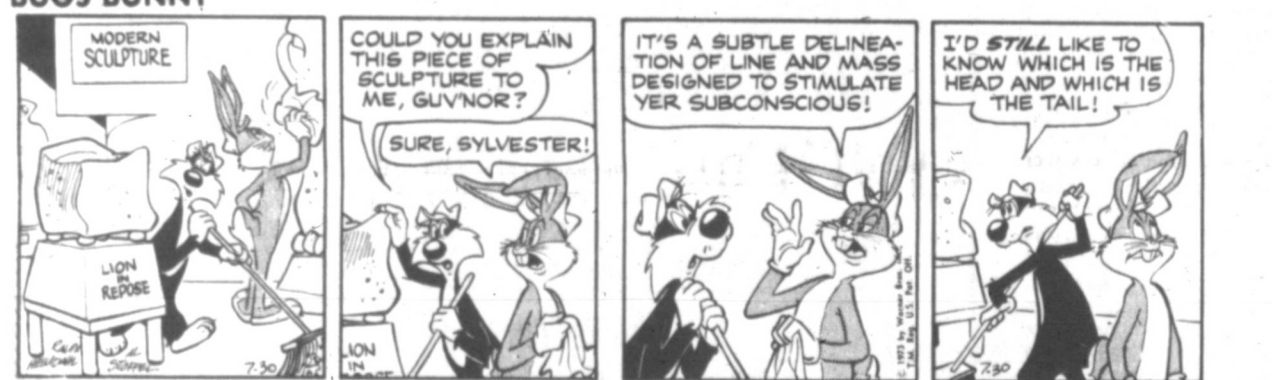
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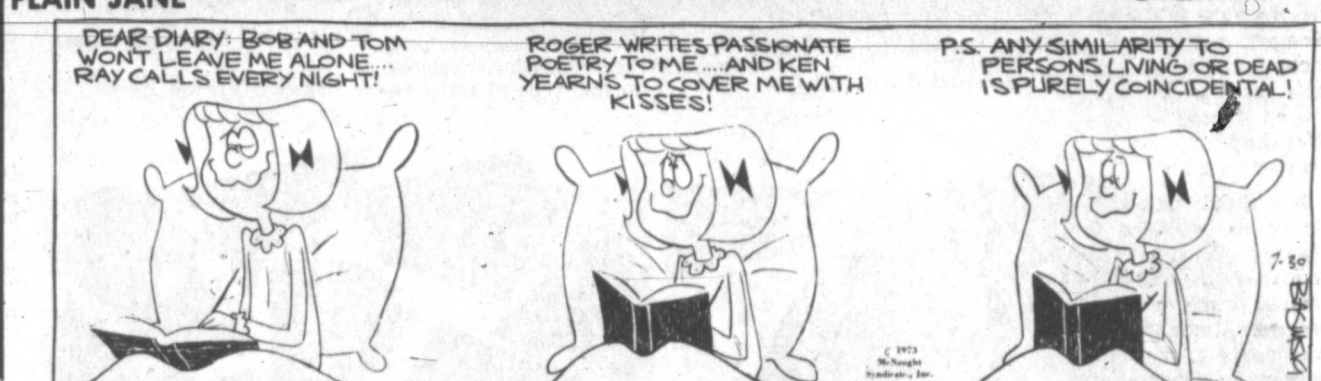
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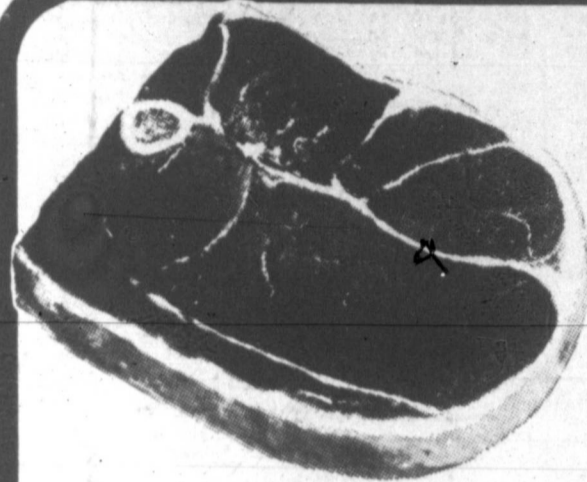






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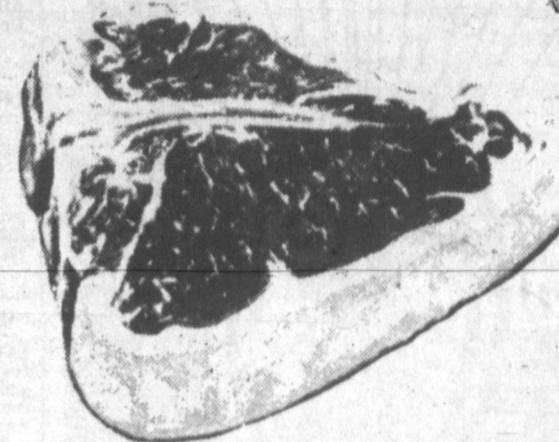
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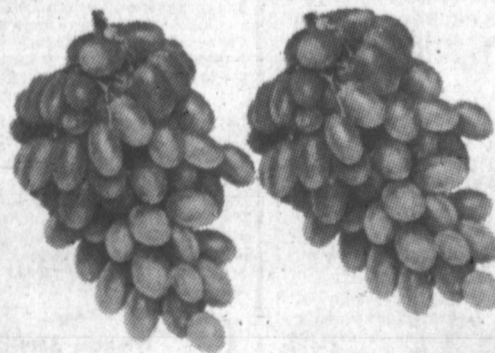
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