MEMORANDUM

TO: SENATOR LEHMAN

Attached is a memo from Herb Beaser to me. I am sending it to you for your general background information.

I asked Herb Beaser to do this research at the suggestion of Phil Perlman. It is Phil who expressed the desire for the material. He felt that somebody ought to nail Mr. Nixon on the myth that has been so widely spread and accepted that he, Nixon, was the man who tracked down Hiss and secured his indictment and conviction as a spy, perjurer, etc.

Phil has pointed out that it was actually the Justice Department that secured Hiss' conviction, and that the House Un-American Activities Committee conducted an investigation which ended up in a cul-de-sac. If it hadn't been for Hiss' libel suit against Chambers, nothing would have come out of the House Un-American Activities Committee's hearing. In any event, Nixon has come to regard himself, and to be regarded, as the hero -- the fearless investigator and the peerless prosecutor.

So I asked Beaser to make this study for Phil. My comments on what Beaser turned up are contained in the attached memo to Phil Perlman.

I send this to you because I know you have always been interested in the general subject. As I indicate in my memo to Phil, I doubt whether the facts are clear enough to warrant a frontal assault on Nixon on this matter. There is no doubt in my mind, however, that Nixon, in this, as in so many other things, has been a man without principle or integrity, who has gathered to himself credit which does not belong to him in any way.

Attachments

J.C.C.E.