

The Burger Court Opinion Writing Database

United States v. Nixon

418 U.S. 683 (1974)

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✓
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

August 26, 1974

PERSONAL

Not on file

Memorandum to: Mr. Justice Douglas
Mr. Justice Brennan
Mr. Justice Stewart
Mr. Justice White
Mr. Justice Marshall
Mr. Justice Blackmun ✓
Mr. Justice Powell

I am back in Washington after two aborted efforts for a holiday in Holland. The weather is better there, but the inflation is worse than ours.

Since July 24 I have read several commentaries on our "Tapes" opinion intimating that some members of the Court joined only to make a unanimous and "definitive" opinion. We are all hardened to the nonsense peddled as "inside information" by some reporters, and with our "vows of silence" there is nothing we can do about it. All of us know that from the day of our Conference on July 10 we were in accord on every major point and that our only differences (and few they were) related to semantics and detail, not substance. I write this to record the fact of our initial and sustained unanimity, as to which there was at no time any doubt, once all the arguments were in, and to keep you posted on the antics of the media in your absence. ✓

I trust each of you is now well restored and eager (?) for October 7.

Regards,

Lee