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EXCERPTS FROM RECORDING

OF MEETING BETWEEN THE

PRESIDENT AND MESSRS.

HALDEMAN AND MITCHELL ON

JUNE 30, 1972, FROM

12:55 TO 2:10 P.M.

ITEM 34.1

SONY CORP.

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TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE
OF THE EXCERPTS FROM THE RECORDING OF A MEETING BETWEEN THE
PRESIDENT AND MESSRS. HALDEMAN AND MITCHELL ON JUNE 30, 1972

HALDEMAN: Well, there is another facet. The longer you wait the more risk each hour [inaudible] you run the risk of more stuff, valid or invalid, surfacing on the Watergate caper. [Inaudible]

PRESIDENT: You couldn't possibly do it [inaudible] --

HALDEMAN: [Inaudible] problem then you are stuck --

PRESIDENT: That is the other thing, if there is something that does come out, we hope nothing will, it may not, but there is always the risk.

HALDEMAN: As of now there is no problem on it, but as of any moment in the future there is every single potential of a problem.

PRESIDENT: I would cut the loss fast. I would cut it fast. If we are going to do it I would cut it fast. That is my view, generally speaking. And I don't, and I don't think -- as a matter of fact, I don't think the story, if you put it in the human terms -- I think the story is a positive rather than a negative, because as I said as I was preparing to answer for the press conference, I just wrote it out as I usually do, the ones that I think are terribly sensitive. [Inaudible] A hell of a lot of people will like that answer. They would -- and it would make anybody else that would ask any other question on it look like a selfish son-of-a-bitch, which I thoroughly intended them to look like.

* * *

MITCHELL: [Inaudible] with all the sympathy in the world.

PRESIDENT: That is great.

HALDEMAN: [Inaudible] with you taking this route -- which people won't expect you to will be a surprise.

PRESIDENT: No, if it is a surprise. . . Otherwise, you are right -- it will be tied right to Watergate. [Inaudible] if you wait too long, if it simmers down.

HALDEMAN: You can't let the other subjects develop on Watergate. The problem with this thing is always the potential of some things. [Inaudible] Mitchell's departure. [Inaudible]

PRESIDENT: [Inaudible] I guess [inaudible] should be happy [inaudible] Martha is not hurt.