

'Watergate' Reference Materials

People	Explanation
Alexander Butterfield	Deputy assistant to President Richard Nixon until 1973; revealed in testimony that there were listening devices in the Oval Office
Archibald Cox	Appointed special prosecutor in the Watergate investigation in May 1973; fired by President Richard Nixon in October 1973
Barry Goldwater	U.S. Republican senator, 1969-1987; urged President Richard Nixon to resign in 1974, as evidence mounted in the Watergate scandal
Bob Haldeman	White House chief of staff to President Nixon
Bob Woodward	<i>Washington Post</i> reporter who teamed with Carl Bernstein on most of the original news reporting on the Watergate scandal
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Clark MacGregor	Chairman of the Committee to Re-Elect the President after George Mitchell
Elliot Richardson	U.S. attorney general, resigned in October 1973
Garrick Utley	NBC News anchor
George Herman	CBS News reporter
Gerald Ford	U.S. vice president, 1973-74; sworn in as president after President Nixon's resignation in 1974; Republican
Harry Reasoner	ABC News anchor

Howard Baker	U.S. Republican senator, 1967-1985; vice chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee, asked “What did the president know, and when did he know it?”
John Chancellor	“NBC Nightly News” anchor
John Dean	White House counsel to President Nixon; fired by Nixon in 1973, later testified that he had told Nixon there was a “cancer growing on the presidency.”
John Ehrlichmann	Domestic affairs adviser to President Nixon
John Mitchell	U.S. attorney general, 1969-1972; in 1972, became chairman of the Committee to Re-Elect the President; resigned from that position a month after the Watergate burglary
Richard Nixon	U.S. president, 1969-1974; resigned as a result of the Watergate scandal, the only U.S. president in history to resign; Republican
Roger Mudd	CBS News anchor
Ron Ziegler	White House press secretary; criticized <i>The Washington Post’s</i> reporting on the Watergate scandal
Rosemary Woods	President Richard Nixon’s personal secretary; testified that she accidentally erased a key section of a White House tape that contained conversations about the Watergate scandal
Sam Ervin	U.S. Democratic senator, 1954-1974; chairman of the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, which investigated the Watergate scandal
Tom Brokaw	White House correspondent for NBC News in 1973; later became “NBC Nightly News” anchor
Walter Cronkite	“CBS Evening News” anchor
William Ruckelshaus	U.S. deputy attorney general, fired by President Nixon in October 1973

Timeline/Events	Explanation
January 1969: Richard Nixon sworn in as president	Begins his first term
June 1972: Watergate burglary	Five men are arrested during a burglary at the Democratic National Committee office in the Watergate office complex.
August 1972: Nixon accepts Republican presidential nomination	Running against U.S. Democratic Sen. George McGovern
January 1973: Nixon again sworn in as president	Begins his second term
April 1973: Bob Haldeman and John Ehrlichmann resign	President Nixon announces the departure of his chief of staff and domestic affairs adviser.
May 1973: <i>The Washington Post</i> wins the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service	Award recognizes “meritorious public service by a newspaper through the use of its journalistic resources” for its Watergate reporting.
May 1973: Watergate hearings begin	Democratic Sen. Sam Ervin chairs the committee; the hearings are televised live.
July 1974: House Judiciary Committee passes the first of three articles of impeachment	Debate over whether or not to impeach the president is televised live; Senate impeachment trial seems likely.
August 1974: Nixon resigns; Vice President Gerald Ford assumes the presidency	Former president Nixon leaves Washington, D.C., by helicopter.

Terms/Vocabulary	Explanation
Anonymous/unnamed source	A person who provides a journalist with information and is not identified by the journalist in any reports as the source of that information
Committee to Re-Elect the President	A fundraising project tied to President Richard Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign; members of this committee planned the details of the break-in at the Democratic National Offices in the Watergate building
Democratic National Committee	A political organization that leads the Democratic Party and supports election campaigns of Democratic candidates
Executive privilege	The right of a U.S. president to keep information from the Congress or the courts; Nixon invoked it when he refused to give the Senate Watergate Committee any White House recordings
Hearsay	(n.) Information heard by one person about another; gossip; rumor
Impeachment	A formal accusation made by the U.S. House of Representatives against a federal official; after impeachment, the U.S. Senate would conduct a trial
Innuendo	(n.) An indirect reference, especially one made maliciously
Pulitzer Prize	Award given annually for excellence in American journalism in various categories (national reporting, feature writing, public service, photography etc.)
Reliable source	A person who provides a journalist with information and is considered knowledgeable and truthful
Subpoena	(n.) A legal order requesting a person appear before a court or investigative committee at a specified time
Unsubstantiated charges	Accusations that are unproved or unverified
<i>The Washington Post</i>	Daily newspaper in Washington, D.C.
Watergate	A political scandal that led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon in 1974; involved bribery, abuse of power and obstruction of justice; received its name from the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters housed in the Watergate apartment and office complex in Washington, D.C.

The Watergate complex	A group of several large buildings in Washington, D.C., including business offices, a hotel and apartments; in 1972 the location of the Democratic National Committee headquarters
Watergate hearings	Sessions conducted by the Senate Watergate Committee to investigate the Watergate scandal; members of the committee questioned various witnesses, who testified under oath; hearings opened in May 1973 and were often broadcast live on television and radio
Wiretapping, bugging	Secretly recording conversations using a hidden recording device