



Chicago Tribune

Tapes restored and cleaned by Transac!

Restoration and cleaning of tapes

Transac



First with the Watergate transcript



JOHN J. MCCARTHEON'S ILLUSTRATION OF A NATIVE VILLAGE



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**EDITOR CLAYTON KIRKPATRICK** thanks the staff for helping to put out the 44-page supplement in addition to an 80-page newspaper.

# How we published the transcript

In one of the greatest editorial and production efforts in its history, the Tribune on May 1 published a special 44-page supplement with its final editions containing the entire transcript of the Watergate tapes. It was the only newspaper in the country to do so.

The Tribune received its first copies of the transcript at approximately 8:30 Tuesday morning in Washington, D.C. The complete and unedited text was in the hands of Tribune readers on Wednesday morning, eight hours before the Government Printing Office bookstore in Washington began selling bound copies for \$12.25.

An additional 55,000 papers over the normal press run were printed, street sales were up 30 per cent in Chicago, and many suburban news agencies were sold out. James Cahill and Paul Freischlag, circulation, took 1,200 copies in the Tribune plane to Washington and distributed them free to the White House, Capitol Hill and government agencies. Another 1,200 papers sent by commercial aircraft, went on sale in Washington hotels and on newsstands. They quickly disappeared. Frank Starr, Washington bureau chief, said "a copy of the paper was the hottest thing in town."

New York Times columnist James Reston, wired Editor Clayton Kirkpatrick: "That was a beautiful job. Congratulations."

By Saturday, more than 17,000 copies of the special supplement had been sold thru the Tribune P.S.O. Reprints were sold for 50 cents across the counter and \$1.50 by mail. To meet the heavy demand, the Tribune ran an additional 20,000 reprints on Friday, May 3.

The decision to try to publish the transcripts was made only minutes after President Nixon finished his television address on Monday night, April 30, when

Publisher Stanton Cook phoned Editor Clayton Kirkpatrick.

"We believe that the President's release of the tape transcripts is an event of utmost significance," Cook said at a news conference Tuesday afternoon. "It certainly ranks as one of the most historic events affecting government in this century."

Kirkpatrick explained that while he and Cook were talking on the phone they agreed that the full text would be a fascinating document. "We felt that we should get it out as quickly as we could."

After the decision was made, Kirkpatrick immediately contacted Maxwell McCrohon, managing editor; Frank Starr, chief of the Washington bureau; and Charles Parvin, assistant news editor then on duty, and instructed them to begin work on the project.

Because a decision had to be made quickly on how the transcript would be printed, a team of five editorial and production men was sent by Tribune plane to Washington's Dulles airport to meet Frank Starr who would bring copies of the transcript.

Parvin contacted Dick Leslie, an assistant news editor, at his home about 10:30 p.m. and asked him to round up two other men for the trip. Leslie called Bob Finan, editorial production coordinator, and George Cohen, Book World production man, who had experience with setting copy in cold type. John Olson, vice president and general manager, phoned Fred Hemingston, composing room superintendent, and Fred contacted Pat Ryan, engraving superintendent.

The five men met the Tribune plane crew at Midway airport at 5 a.m. They landed at Dulles airport at 7:15 a.m. Washington time, and were met there by Frank

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**MANAGING** editor, Maxwell McCrohon, called a meeting in his office to plan page 1. L. to r. are McCrohon, Chuck Scott, Gus Hartoonian, Dennis Ginosi, Tony Majeri, and Bob Twilling.



(continued from page 3)

Starr, who had secured three copies of the text. While Jim Squires sat in the car reading one of the copies, Frank went over the other two copies in the airport waiting room with the Tribune team.

"The pages were 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> by 11 inches and electrostatically printed on both sides," explained Hemingston. "We considered photographing the text, but because bleed-thru occurred in many places and a 50 per cent reduction in size would have made the type appear smaller than regular classified type, it was decided to have the text set in type."

Hemingston phoned the composing room and asked them to make preparations for the giant task of setting the 1,308-page transcript. The resulting 44-page section represented 252 columns of type, equal to 35,280 lines or 246,960 words. It required approximately 60 printers to handle the TTS tape perforating, typesetting, proofreading, and makeup of the 44 pages. All the type was set on the 505 machines and was made up in photo comp.

Leslie also phoned from the Washington airport to make arrangements. Because of his experience in making up in cold type the Sunday Job Guide, Auto, and Real Estate sections, Leslie asked Dennis Ginosi, financial desk, to coordinate the copy and photographs with the composing room. He also asked Dennis to line up copy editors to handle the text.

Ginosi and Dave Halvorsen, assistant managing editor, talked with Larry Townsend, assistant Sunday editor, and John Fink, Tribune Magazine editor, who released all available copyreaders. Copy editors reading the transcript, in addition to Cohen, were John Blades, Magazine; Mitchell Dydo, local news; Ridge Hunt, financial; Stephen Lough, foreign desk; Bill Plunkett, Homes & Leisure Living; Susan Popson, Lifestyle; Karen Schickedanz, financial; John Stefanski, Arts & Fun; and Jack Wade, Tempo.

As the plane returned from Washington to Meigs Field, Leslie, Finan and Cohen checked thru the pages to see that the transcript was complete and that all pages were readable. The plane arrived at 9:30 a.m., and the five men were in the Tower at 9:45.

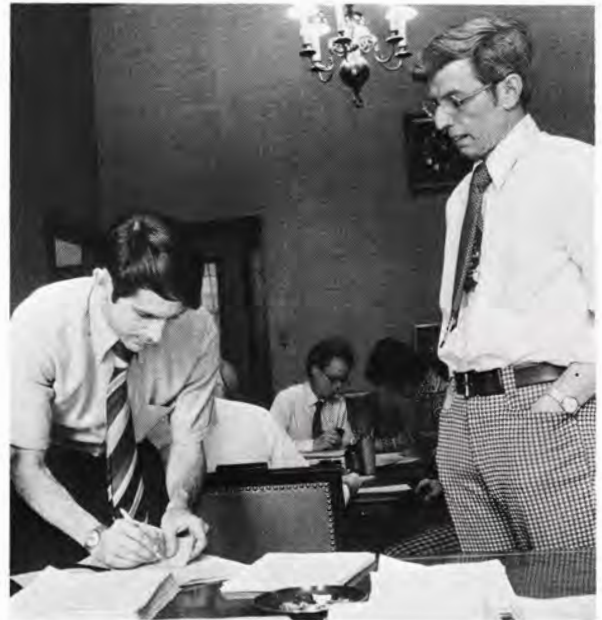
At a conference in Kirkpatrick's office (attended by Kirkpatrick, Cook, Wayne Perry, production manager, and Byron Campbell, assistant to the president) it was determined how long it would take to print the supplement. To save typesetting time and because Kirkpatrick felt it looked better, it was decided to set the type with a ragged right edge. The two copies of the document were then taken to duplicating where the bindings were sheared off. Three Xerox copies were then made.

To simplify the handling for teletypesetters, the backside of pages from one transcript were crossed out, and the two transcripts were combined.

Copyreading began in the office of L. A.



**XEROXING** copies of the transcript are Lynn Bruder, Lynne Manning, and George Cohen, who flew to Washington.



**DICK LESLIE** (above l.) and Bob Finan, who went to Washington, organize the pages according to meetings. Copyreading (below) are, l. to r., John Blades, John Stefanski, Ridge Hunt, and Karen Schickedanz.





**FIRST PAGES** of copy arrived in composing for teletype setting (above) at 12:45 a.m. Jim Lauton (above r.) dries galleys of type. Gary Glick (below) checks sequence of galleys.



**LAYING OUT** page 1 are Dennis Ginosi, Gus Hartoonian, and John Adams, handman.



VanVlissingen, assistant to the editor at 11:30 a.m. The last page was sent to composing at 4:25 p.m. The text was edited in no way, but copy was marked for paragraphs and capitalization, and occasional misspellings were corrected.

**M**eanwhile, at 10:30 a.m., Maxwell McCrohon, managing editor, called a meeting in his office to plan page 1 of the section and coordinate the regular edition of the Tribune. Present were Chuck Scott, picture editor; Gus Hartoonian, manager of editorial art; Tony Majeri, graphic artist; Robert Twilling, manager of promotion and public relations; and Dennis Ginosi, who was coordinating makeup of page 1 in composing. John Wagoner, news editor, was overall coordinator of the entire special section.

Hartoonian and Majeri created several designs for page 1, and one of them was selected by McCrohon. The front page story for the section was written by James O. Jackson, reporter, and Casey Banas, assistant to the editor, prepared the Transcript Index. Howard Finberg, assistant picture editor, located and sized photographs for page 1, inside and back pages, and ordered Velox prints from the engraving department. Scott asked photographer Chuck Osgood to take the special front page picture of the tapes.

Ginosi worked with printers on the makeup of page 1 and other pages during the afternoon and evening. Page 1 proofs were read by McCrohon, Wagoner, and Dick Leslie.

"It was an awesome production task," said McCrohon. "Not only were we preparing the special 44-page section, but a regular 80-page Wednesday paper was in motion, too.

"On top of that, the production department was handling two afternoon editions of our sister paper, Today.

"Staffers from all departments were volunteering their help. Their efforts went on long into the evening—and ended when night picture editor, Tom Hollatz, put together a picture page in 10 minutes at around midnight to round out the transcript section."

**I**n the composing room, Fred Hemingston had set a target time for completion of the pasteup at between 9:30 and 9:45 p.m. The first pages of copy arrived in teletype for typesetting at 11:45 a.m., and the last page was sent to engraving at 9:34 p.m.

"It was the largest job the composing room has ever handled," Hemingston said. "If it wasn't for the high speed 505 equipment, we couldn't have done it. It takes the same amount of time to punch out a tape as it does to set type in hot metal, but the hot metal machines set type at 10 lines a minute, and photo comp machines set it at 300 lines per minute.

"Everyone did a magnificent job, including makeup  
*(continued on page 6)*

# “A tremendous accomplishment”

foreman, Pat Neary and Frank Marcangelo, who came in at 9 a.m. and worked until almost 10 p.m., and Bob Williams, assistant superintendent, and Ralph Jacobs, typesetting foreman, who came in early and kept things moving.

“It wasn’t just a matter of producing this special section. We turned out an 80-page newspaper in our spare time.”

Ginosi commented: “They did a great job in composing. The galley proofs were very clean, and under that pressure and with that much type, it was amazing to me that no columns of type were transposed.”

**T**he engraving department received the first pages at 5:25 p.m. and sent the last two pages to stereotype at 10:15 p.m. The pages were handled in pairs using two processes—regular etching machines, in which acid is used to eat away the unwanted parts and leave a raised surface, and new machines designed to handle a new photopolymer called Dycril. The Dycril machines use water instead of acid.

Stereotype brought its late crews in early to handle the extra load; the pressroom used six extra presses to handle the special section and regular newspaper and brought in 70 extra men; and the mailroom used 45 additional men to handle the extra press run and increase in size. The section was on the presses by 10:30 p.m.

“It was a tremendous accomplishment,” said Wayne Perry, production manager. “It was not only

those employees that were actually working on the transcript that made it possible, but also those who produced the Tribune and Today regular schedule.”

**O**n Tuesday afternoon, Cook and Kirkpatrick held a news conference in the 20th floor executive dining room at 3:30 p.m. They showed the front page layout and explained details of the achievement. The conference was attended by the four major Chicago television stations, the UPI and AP wire services, and the City News Bureau.

Channels 2, 7 and 9 carried film coverage on their evening news telecasts, and the story was carried by all major radio news stations. By Wednesday morning, the special transcript supplement was the topic on most morning radio talk shows. Channel 5 carried local news coverage of the story on Wednesday evening and NBC-TV’s John Chancellor gave details of the publication and called it a “publishing miracle.” The other channels did followup stories emphasizing the sales at the newsstands.

The Tribune’s achievement was the subject of roundup stories in Time and Newsweek and articles in Editor & Publisher and New York Journalism Review. On Friday, May 3, the Walter Cronkite Show on CBS-TV carried a feature on public response to the supplement and Public Service Office sales.

By May 16, the PSO had sold 61,400 supplements; 11,800 across the counter, 14,500 by mail, and 35,100 in bulk mailings.



Fred Hemingston

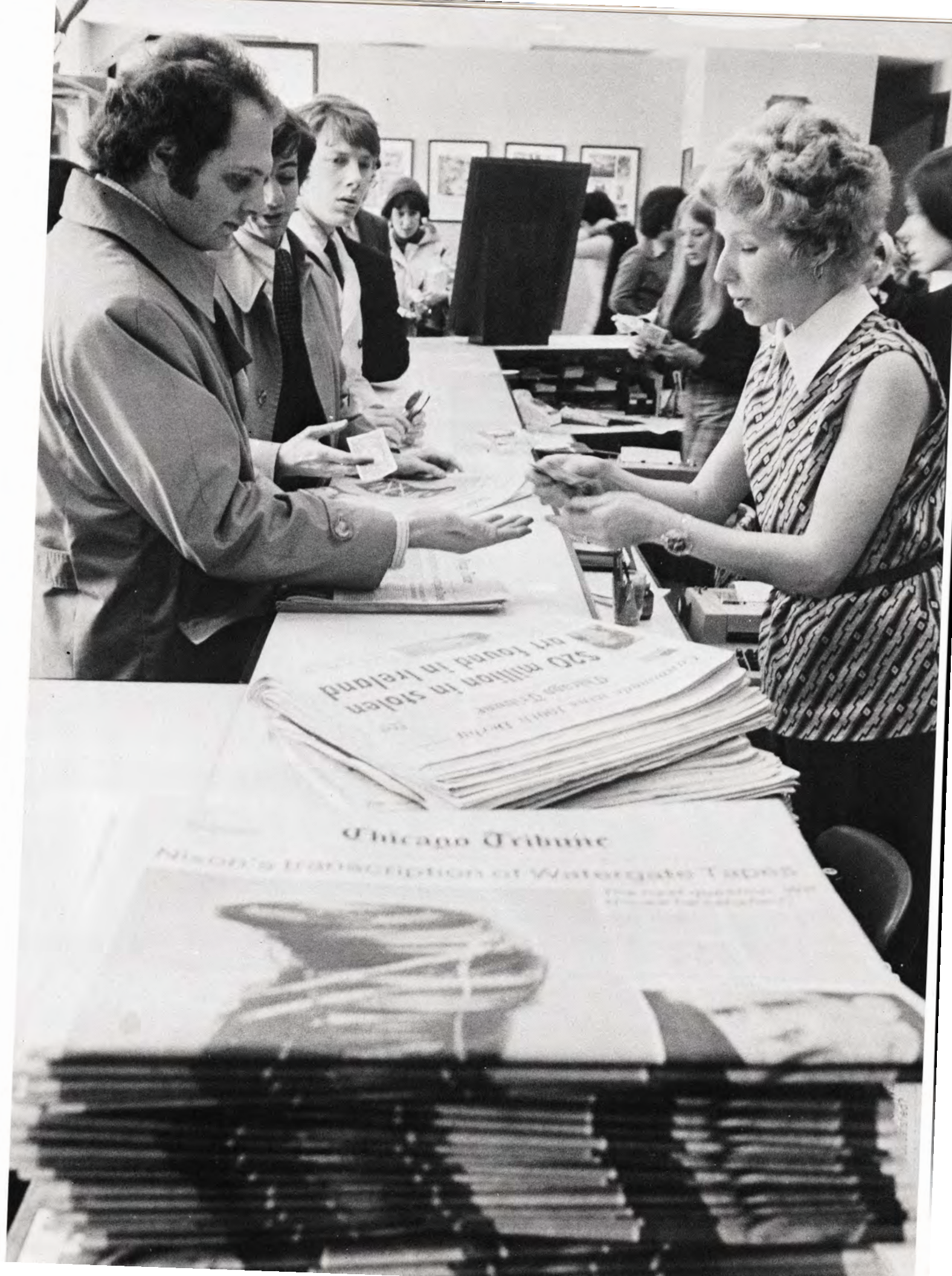


Pat Ryan

## On the cover

Publisher Stanton Cook, at an April 30 news conference, shows representatives of the four major Chicago television stations, the UPI and AP wire services, and the City News Bureau, a front page layout for the special 44-page supplement.

**22,600** supplements were sold by the Public Service Office in the first six days.



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# Thousands respond to editorial

**O**n May 9, under the headline "Listen, Mr. Nixon . . .", a Tribune editorial proposed the resignation or impeachment of the President. Within 48 hours, more than 4,000 readers had telephoned the Tribune either supporting or disagreeing with its editorial position.

This is how the editorial decision was made. For seven days following the Tribune's publication of the complete Watergate tape transcripts, editorial policy-makers carefully studied the text. Then early Wednesday morning, May 8, Editor Clayton Kirkpatrick phoned Stanton Cook, publisher, and John McCutcheon, chief editorial writer, suggesting that a decision be made.

McCutcheon phoned Frank Starr and Jim Squires in Washington at Kirkpatrick's suggestion. He asked them if there was a chance that Nixon would volunteer any additional record of White House con-

versations or would open up in any other way. Their answer was no. This removed the potential obstacle of having the editorial contradicted later.

Cook, Kirkpatrick, and McCutcheon began discussing the editorial at 10 a.m. and were joined by the five other editorial writers at 11:45 a.m. An hour after the conference adjourned, 1,300 words of copy hit the composing room.

**A**s the first edition came off the press, outside media moved in. Associated Press and United Press International put the story on their wires. Television and radio crews, bringing lights and cameras, interviewed Kirkpatrick, and at the office and home Kirkpatrick gave recorded phone interviews for broadcast newsmen from England, Australia, and Canada.

National newscasters carried the story on the NBC, CBS, and ABC networks, and Chicago-based cor-

respondents for Newsweek, Time, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, and dozens of other major publications began wiring and phoning stories to their editors. Jiji Press Agency, serving more than 100 Asian newspapers, cabled Tokyo with a story and the full text of the editorial.

Casey Banas, assistant to the editor, kept a tally of the phone calls and mail. By May 14, the Tribune had received 2,183 calls supporting the editorial and 2,068 against it. Mail ran 322 for the editorial position, 759 against.

**the  
little trib**

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