

NIXON BY MISTAKE?

Some Thoughts about America's 37th President

Sam: Nixon was a strangely tragic character . . .

Kris: Why do you say that?

Sam: He had so many contradictions without realizing it.

Tim: He was no dummy – I think he realized a lot more than the public will ever know.

Sam: Yet there was a social ineptness about him that seemed tragic.

Tim: Well, many of America's leaders are from humble origins . . . Just like Reagan, Nixon was well-indoctrinated into American mythology.

Terri: Perhaps. Nixon seemed to epitomize the contradictions inherent in many American presidents. I would describe him as one-third gangster, one-third idealist, and two-thirds common dude.

Kris: (laughing) The math is nonsense: how can you have over 100%?

Terri: I know it doesn't add up . . . yet when you think about it, how much human ambition does?

