

Nixon and the Mafia — Conclusion

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1913 Fillmore St.
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"Organized crime will put a man in the White House someday, and he won't even know it until they hand him the bill."

— Ralph Salerno

Part 1 of "Nixon and the Mafia" was published in the September issue of "Computers and Automation"; Part 2, in the October issue. Part 3 begins here with further information about the relation of President-to-be Richard M. Nixon with shady transactions in the Bahamas.

Shakeup in the Bahamas

By the middle Sixties there was a storm brewing. Internal friction had forced out a few people like Lou Chesler, while a wave of public investigations were blaring the role of underworld figures like Meyer Lansky. The 1967 Royal Commission of Inquiry also dredged up another familiar name — Richard Nixon.

Testimony before the Royal Commission by Max Courteney, a Lansky lieutenant, detailed a long bookmaking career and brought out the names of a large clientele, including the then ex-Vice President Richard Nixon.

Mary Carter Paint

The Royal Commission also bared a deal which implicated Richard Nixon far more deeply than passing mention by an underground bookie.

In 1967 Lyndon Pindling became the first black premier ever to serve the almost one hundred percent black citizenry of the island. Pindling was hardly a revolutionary, however, for among the people instrumental in putting him in office was a gambler close to Lansky named Mike McLaney. The Royal Commission branded McLaney a "thoroughly dangerous person" and accused him of maneuvering Pindling into at least one deal involving a questionable gambling concession.

Part of the post-election controversy was a company based in Tampa which bore the innocuous name of "Mary Carter Paint Company".

In 1965 Lansky's front-man (and former Key Biscayne landowner) Wallace Groves, filed a joint application with the Mary Carter Company to open a

casino on Paradise Island in the Bahamas. The ubiquitous Sir Stafford Sands handled the legalities. Knowledgeable observers looked for the mystery man, and a Justice Department memo, dated January 18, 1966, predicted that "the atmosphere seems ripe for a Lansky skim".

After Pindling's election, Groves was forced out and the Mary Carter Paint Company had itself two new casinos. At the 1967 opening of one of them — the Nassau Bay Club — the honored guest was Richard Nixon.

The following year — 1968 — the other Mary Carter Club, the Paradise Island Casino, opened for business. The owners felt close enough to Nixon to offer him use of their facilities during the 1968 Republican Convention. Nixon felt more comfortable at Key Biscayne, but some of his staff took up the offer.

Mary Carter Becomes Resorts International

In 1969 Mary Carter — now called Resorts International — reluctantly "released" one Dino Cellini, claiming that while he "had a relatively unsavory background, he had no criminal record, no criminal associates". Cellini hopped across the water to Miami, where, according to Dade County Sheriff Intelligence Reports, he continued to work in conjunction with Paradise Island Casino. The reports allege that Cellini was an almost daily visitor to Resorts International's Miami office, where he checked credits and worked with a company booking junkets to the Paradise Island Casino.

There are those who maintain that Cellini's connections with Resorts International symbolize the influence of Lansky. In a 1971 editorial, the Las Vegas Sun concluded an eleven part series on organized crime — some of which centered on Resorts International — by charging that "however cloaked and cleverly concealed by the guardians, gambling in the Bahamas is controlled by Meyer Lansky and it has been established in police intelligence reports that the fee is fifteen percent of the gross income". The now defunct Toronto Telegram reported in 1970 that "observers believe that the resourceful Lansky is still managing to get his cut from the Bahamas".

Resorts International, through its ninety-one percent owned subsidiary, Intertel, has denied all allegations of involvement with organized crime. It

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was Intertel that ITT hired in 1972 to snoop on columnist Jack Anderson.

The latest and possibly most damaging charge in the Resorts International battle came in June 1972 in an IRS inspired indictment of Meyer Lansky and Dino Cellini. The indictment reads in part:

On or about May 17, 1968, unindicted co-conspirator Vincent Teresa met with defendants Meyer Lansky and Dino Cellini in Miami and had a discussion wherein defendants Lansky and Cellini gave Teresa permission to conduct gambling junkets to the Paradise Island Casino.

Thus government agents allege that in 1968 Lansky maintained at least some control in running junkets to Resorts International's Paradise Island Casino. The junket racket is an integral part of the casino operation, and as recently as 1971 Lansky's cohort Eddie Cellini was reportedly still arranging junkets for the Paradise Island Casino.

Enter Nixon and Rebozo

It was in 1967 — with Lansky still okaying junkets and Cellini still running the Paradise Island Casino — that Richard Nixon and Bebe Rebozo became friends with the head of Resorts International.

It should be no surprise that James Golden, the recently (1969) hired "deputy director of security" for Resorts International is a good friend of Nixon's. As a Secret Service guard for Nixon when he was Vice President, Golden made a good enough impression to be appointed staff security chief for Nixon in 1968. Golden was also security director of Nixon's convention headquarters in Miami that year, and was security director for his subsequent inauguration. Later that year he moved to Resorts International. Golden is just one of a long string of interesting Nixon security appointees, among them Watergate indictees James McCord, Gordon Liddy, and Howard Hunt.

There are rumors, some of which have been aired in the press, that Richard Nixon owns stock in Resorts International. Former Republican Presidential candidate Thomas E. Dewey does own stock in the company, and, according to organized crime investigator Hank Messick among others, there are reports of Lansky buying stock as well. Nobody has proved anything one way or another about the stock connections, but that Nixon is connected to Resorts International, at least through Golden, is indisputable.

Perhaps more disquieting than rumors of Nixon stock ownership in an underworld holding company for Bahamian casinos are the reports of his meddling in Bahamian affairs. In 1969 a proposed tax increase on gambling profits to provide money for Bahamian schools was slashed in half by the Minister of Finance. The Minister refused to explain the cut, and told opposition members to "use your imagination" for an explanation.

The advice was taken literally by some Bahamian papers who speculated that pressure came from "outside sources connected with casinos". One Bahamian paper asked openly if "a telephone call from the White House was not responsible?"

Whereas our investigation into Cuban politics brought evidence to light possible violations of the Neutrality Act, we now have the possibility of an American President who has spent a significant amount of his vacation time in the Bahamas also meddling in the affairs of that country.

Richard Nixon, a man with both visible and invisible links to the underworld and politics of pre-Castro Cuba, turns up in the Bahamas with very similar links, bringing some big names along with him.

Enter William Rogers

Two men with histories both in Bahamian politics and in the finances of organized crime have made frequent use of the legal services of a firm whose most prominent partner is Richard Nixon's old friend William P. Rogers, one-time Secretary of State.

The two men are Mike McLaney, charged by the Royal Commission in 1967, and a business cohort of his named William Colusardo. McLaney and Colusardo were investigated in 1967 by the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with a blueberry plantation that McLaney sold to a company controlled by Colusardo. The subsequent corporate jugglings implicated (among others) newly elected Bahamian Premier Lyndon Pindling. Among Colusardo's "favors" for Pindling were the use of his airplane during the election campaign, and a \$127,000 contribution in the form of an "interest payment". The law firm that defended McLaney and Colusardo against the SEC was that of William P. Rogers. Rogers had been a close friend and political associate of Nixon's for twenty-five years. He accompanied Nixon on many of his Bahamian jaunts and also made frequent stops with him at the Key Biscayne Inn and Villas. In addition to being an "R & R" sidekick, Rogers was the man Nixon turned to for counsel amidst his personal crises in the Checkers affair and Eisenhower's serious heart attack.

Rogers served the Eisenhower/Nixon team for eight years in the Department of Justice, first as Deputy Attorney General, and then, by 1957, as Attorney General. The Justice Department's record against organized crime in the years following the Kefauver Commission was lackluster, to say the least. It was Rogers who personally rejected the recommendations of the specially constituted Wessell Committee on organized crime set up in the wake of the infamous Appalachian raid in upstate New York that revealed a Mafia summit conference. The Committee's proposals for a concentrated and coordinated war on organized crime were only implemented some years later by Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

A footnote in the Justice Department files was a report by IRS Special Agent Joseph Delfino, dated October 19, 1953. The IRS recommended to the Justice Department that "criminal proceedings be instituted against Meyer Lansky in the Southern Judicial District of New York for the willful attempt to defeat and evade a large portion of his income taxes for the years 1945 and 1947 under section 145b of the Internal Revenue Code". The Justice Department — with William Rogers second in command at the time — respectfully declined to prosecute.

Lums Hot Dogs

Upon leaving his post as Attorney General in 1960, Rogers became a member of the New York firm of Royal, Koegel and Wells. In 1969, with its leading partner about to become Secretary of State, Royal, etc. moved with its clients wholeheartedly into the world of gambling casinos and organized crime.

A year later Royal took on the account of the Miami-based hot dog chain, Lums Inc. What did a hot dog chain have to offer a prestigious New York law firm? The answer may lie in where the firm took its client.

In 1969 Lums purchased the Ceasar's Palace Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas for \$60,000,000. A month later the Nevada state gambling authorities were looking into the hotels' "catering to twelve underworld figures from Kansas City".

A few months after the purchase the SEC filed suit charging Lums and Ceasar's Palace with "false and misleading" statements. The SEC wondered how Ceasar's managed to lose \$1,000,000 in five months when the previous year (before Lums bought in) there was a \$2,200,000 profit for a comparable time period.

The SEC also questioned Lums concerning the \$3,500,000 Lums paid one Jerome Zarowitz, a convicted professional sports fixer who wasn't even listed as an owner of the casino. Top officials in both Ceasar's and Lums have been under investigation by IRS intelligence in Miami and by Nevada gaming authorities in cases involving organized crime ever since Rogers' firm took on the Lums account.

There is also the question of the 1971 Lums acquisition of a North Miami housing resort development called Sky Lakes. Both Sky Lakes and Ceasar's Palace have received large sums of money from the Teamsters — \$12,000,000 for the Miami project and more than \$16,000,000 for Ceasar's Palace.

With things going slowly, Lums announced plans for a new \$22,000,000 casino next door to Ceasar's Palace. In December of 1971 the company decided that the whole restaurant idea was no longer worth the trouble. In a classic climax to a classic American success they changed their name to Ceasar's World Inc. and sold their hot dog stands.

Meanwhile the Secretary of State's old law firm reaped a bundle with their new-found involvement in the Las Vegas underworld. With such stunning successes at home, one wonders what a firm with a link to the Secretary of State could do abroad, in places like the Bahamas or Vietnam, for example.

Nor do the underworld implications of big names surrounding Nixon end with the Secretary of State. Murray Chotiner, a long-time Nixon aide and architect of his early smear campaigns, has past links to the underworld. In 1962 Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson wrote that "Chotiner ... besides representing the top gangster of Philadelphia, Marco Reginelli, represented a long and amazing list of hoods, concession peddlers, income tax violators and others needing influence in high places ..." It was Chotiner who brought Frank Vitale, "once involved in the biggest bootlegging conspiracy on the West Coast," onto Nixon's special plane to Moscow in 1959.

Nixon's recent appointment of Walter Annenberg as Ambassador to England also echoes the themes of underworld involvement. Annenberg and his father were indicted in 1939 for "aiding and abetting" in connection with their wire service operation in Chicago, an operation run with the protection of Al Capone, for which the Annenbergs paid \$1,000,000. The Annenberg family was also a major contributor to Nixon's 1968 election campaign.

Further back in the Nixon saga, and closer to his southern California birthplace, lies San Diego financier, C. Arnholdt Smith and his bookmaker partner John Alessio. In 1946 Alessio and Smith introduced Nixon to another bookmaker named Lew Lipinsky. Lipinsky, who was convicted for bookmaking in 1938, served for three decades as a go-between for the Smith/Alessio interests to their syndicate connections.

Some of the dealings of the Smith/Alessio combine were brought to national prominence by a recent LIFE magazine article which accused Attorney General Richard Kleindienst of "tampering with justice" in a case involving Alessio. According to the Wall Street Journal, Smith raised \$1,000,000 for Nixon's 1968 campaign. He and his wife took the first position on the receiving line behind the President at the White House inauguration.

More of the Same in California

Nixon's other favorite resting place besides Key Biscayne is the area near his birthplace in southern California. Here the underworld pattern of his Florida involvements repeats itself — in a strikingly similar pattern.

One story there involves Nixon's multi-millionaire backer, C. Arnholdt Smith, and the Del Charro Hotel in La Jolla, just north of San Diego.

The Del Charro was a favorite stopover for Nixon in the Fifties. Owned by the Murchison brothers, who also owned the nearby Del Mar race track, the hotel played host to numerous Detroit and Las Vegas gangsters. Alan Witwer, a former manager of the hotel, has alleged in statements to this reporter and others that the hotel served as a secret meeting place for politicians and assorted business interests, some of them from the underworld. Witwer specifically cited a 1954 meeting attended by Nixon and chaired by a leading member of ITT. He also claimed that there was a bookmaking operation at the hotel, but has offered no documented proof.

Mrs. C. Arnholdt Smith is a permanent resident of the Del Charro, and the hotel's visitors have included John Connally, Barry Goldwater, and J. Edgar Hoover. Hoover's \$15,000-a-year bills were picked up by the stockholders of the Murchison interests.

The fact that certain of Hoover's good friends rubbed elbows, rather warmly, with Meyer Lansky, and the fact that the nation's leading crime fighting agency — the FBI — has come up almost blank in its fight against organized crime may not prove anything about Hoover. On the other hand, these facts don't make it any easier to dismiss questions which might arise about the influence of organized crime at the highest levels of government.

North of the Del Charro and thirty miles south of the San Clemente White House, lies the mammoth La Costa land resort development. The development is tied to both Smith (his daughter is a director) and to the Teamsters.

La Costa was originally developed by Cleveland syndicate reliables Allard Roen and Moe Dalitz. The development was reorganized in 1968 to bring Teamster control more in line with their investments, which already exceeded \$18,000,000. Like Sky Lakes, its Florida counterpart, La Costa attracts a whole range of figures from organized crime. La Costa visitors have included Willie "Ice Pick" Alderman, a St. Louis mob cohort Morris Shenker, and Wallace Groves and Lou Chesler of Bahamas fame.

According to eyewitnesses, when Groves' helicopter sets down, the red carpet is rolled out. It may be because Groves bought a home in La Costa, but more likely it's because, as government agents put it, "where Groves appears, Meyer Lansky will not be far behind".

Another mob frequenter of the La Costa development is Jake Arvey, an organizer of the Republic

National Bank in Miami, the bank through which Bernard Barker channeled funds for the Watergate crime.

The Teamsters Again

A recent visitor to La Costa was Frank Fitzsimmons, a key to Nixon's new-found support in organized labor. Fitzsimmons is president of the Teamsters Union. This summer he stopped in La Costa on his way to see Nixon at San Clemente. Fitzsimmons had just come from dinner in Detroit with a local Mafia figure and soon after his Detroit-La Costa-San Clemente excursion, Fitzsimmons announced his support for Nixon. One wonders whether the Teamster decision to stay on the Pay Board and to support Nixon is somehow related to what the Detroit Free Press has been hinting strongly as of late: that the administration has stopped prosecution of Frank's son Richard Fitzsimmons — the business partner of a Detroit mobster — on charges of missing union funds, in exchange for Teamster support of the Republican President.

Whatever deals Nixon and Fitzsimmons did make, the Teamsters have a long working relationship with organized crime. Their marriage goes back over twenty years, where Jimmy Hoffa was introduced to the Detroit underworld by Paul Dorfman, in exchange for some multi-million dollar insurance business. Dorfman's son, Paul, has residences at both Sky Lakes and La Costa and was recently convicted of taking kickbacks on a Teamster loan.

The Teamster tradition of labor racketeering and corruption made for a ready alliance with the mob. Early government investigations of the Teamsters, such as the Bobby Kennedy-led McClellan Permanent Committee on Investigations, centered on labor racketeering. As Attorney General, Kennedy continued his pursuit of the Teamsters and their boss, Jimmy Hoffa. At one point Kennedy had twenty-nine grand juries simultaneously investigating Hoffa's activity — one of which led to a conviction for mail fraud and jury tampering.

In 1969, two Oakland Tribune reporters concluded a six-month investigation with the charge that "the \$628,000,000 Teamsters Central States, Southeast and Southwest Pension Fund headquartered in Chicago, has become a bankroll for some of America's most sinister underground figure".

Nowhere does the relationship between this fund and the mob surface more dramatically than in Las Vegas, where Teamster trustees have approved loans between \$50 and \$70,000,000, some shakily secured by second mortgages and subordinated notes. A high-ranking Federal official has commented that "the Teamster fund is a sort of open bank to people well-connected in Las Vegas and well-connected to organized crime".

It was Hoffa's desire "to have [his] own bank in every city" that brought on the Teamster takeover of the Miami National Bank. The Bank in turn is just one of a long list of ventures, such as Ceasar's Palace, Sky Lakes, La Costa, Worldwide Realty, International Airport Hotel Systems, Truesdale Estates, in which Teamster money amounting to over \$60,000,000 figures prominently alongside the social and business partners of Richard M. Nixon — a line of investments that leads from Nixon's three White Houses to a Federal clemency for Jimmy Hoffa and back to organized crime.

The current head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division saw enough evidence in 1967 to say

that he "knew for a moral certainty [that] in the upper echelons there is an amalgamation between the Cosa Nostra and the Teamsters Union". In 1971, when a Federal Grand Jury probing the activities of Meyer Lansky questioned Jimmy Hoffa, many wondered whether the links between the two giants were more direct than the numerous transactions between mutual friends.

A few months after his testimony, Hoffa was granted clemency after serving less than five years of his thirteen-year sentence. The freeing of Hoffa and three co-defendants of the 1963 wire fraud pension case is the latest and most crucial event in Nixon's longstanding friendship, a friendship with some clear public benefits for both. Jack Anderson documents, for example, that as early as 1960, then Vice-President Nixon and Attorney General Rogers intervened to halt an indictment against Hoffa in exchange for Hoffa's support in the 1960 election.

ANICO — More of the Same in Texas

In recent years the Teamster fund has been superseded by a giant Texas insurance company as a major source of finance for Las Vegas casinos tied to the mob. The company is the American National Insurance Company (ANICO) of Galveston, Texas. ANICO is close to the heart and pocketbook of the two ranking Texans in the Nixon administration — former Treasury Secretary John Connally and former Assistant Attorney General Will Wilson.

As well as floating more than \$40,000,000 to Las Vegas casinos and \$13,000,000 to premier mob attorney Morris Shanker, ANICO has made loans to two Florida companies close to Richard Nixon — \$1,750,000 in 1966 to the Mary Carter Paint Company, and \$3,000,000 in 1970 to a subsidiary of Worldwide Realty.

That year a group of disenchanted stockholders filed a multi-million-dollar suit, charging ANICO officials with having taken control of the company and using it as a private preserve as well as a source of funds for the mob.

The defendants in the suit hired Nixon's New York firm to handle the case. Connally's Houston law firm has also been used by ANICO. The First National Bank of Houston, of which Connally was a director and in which some of his law partners were officers, has provided an interest-free account of more than \$1,000,000 for ANICO. Connally was also a director of a savings association which was purchased recently by ANICO.

Will Wilson was "general" of the Justice Department's "war" on crime from 1969-1971. He was head of the Criminal Division until October 1971, when his resignation was forced by disclosures tying him to the scandal-rocked financial empire of Texas wheeler-dealer Frank Sharp. Wilson has been charged by dissident ANICO stockholders of helping to drag ANICO into the twilight zones of finance with such deals as the 1963 absorption of a defaulted \$450,000 mortgage held by Sharp. Sharp's attorney and "financial advisor" on the deal was Will Wilson.

While Attorney General of Texas, Wilson sued the foundation which controlled ANICO to bring three new trustees onto the foundation's board of directors. Wilson has no visible ties to the new trustees, whose votes were instrumental in shaping the company's new financial course. But dissident stockholders have charged that the "negotiations" that

brought on the shift of control in the foundations were handled by a Galveston law firm linked to the mob. The stockholders also claim that John Connally played a role in these negotiations, albeit a "backstage" role. The ANICO case is part of a long history of Wilson's involvement with the Galveston underworld.

When he came to the Justice Department in Washington, Wilson discovered the organized crime division looking into the affairs of ANICO. Since then there have been no indictments in the case and there are reports that Wilson had the ANICO files locked safely in his personal office. One source of those reports is Stewart Hopps, a former Justice Department investigator.

Some serious conflict-of-interest charges concerning ANICO remain:

- The officers of ANICO who were later represented by Nixon's law firm, made a loan to a company whose top officers are long-time friends of Nixon.
- The criminal division of the Justice Department has been headed by a man with direct links in a company the division is supposedly investigating.
- The company also has clear ties to Nixon's former Treasury Secretary, a man mentioned for the Vice-Presidency, the national chairman of Democrats for Nixon, and a key figure in the President's re-election scheme.

Whose Justice Department?

The ANICO case takes us to a fitting endpoint to the story of Richard Nixon's involvement with the underworld — the Department of Justice. It is an old saw that criminal and criminal-chaser eventually become involved in the same business, but in Richard Nixon that old saw has become more of a reality than perhaps ever before in American history. For Richard Nixon is a man whose name has been synonymous with "law and order" in America for three decades.

Yet the four-year "war" on organized crime by the Nixon administration bears more resemblance to the "peace" in Vietnam than a sincere effort to get at the mob.

In a recent interview in U.S. News and World Report (September 11, 1972), Attorney General Richard Kleindienst hailed "about 1600" indictments of underworld figures brought by the Nixon administration in the past three and half years. The Justice Department claims that many of these indictments involve top mobsters.

Those outside the Nixon administration, however, have charged that the government's prosecution has been both partisan and selective, aimed exclusively at mobsters linked to big-city Democrats such as in Newark, and at the "little fish" who are always in abundance and who make little difference in conducting mob business. Time has reported that quotas have been established (i.e. one hundred hoodlums a month for New York City) and that arrests are "being delayed so that future quotas can be filled". The New York Times has editorialized about the ease with which petty gamblers can and have been rounded up, and wondered aloud if the Justice Department isn't conducting more a publicity war than one on organized crime. A Times report this year found the government was building up a backlog of gambling indictments, saving them for a crucial time during the election campaign.

Indeed, while the Nixon-Agnew-Mitchell team has used the spectre of "CRIME" to keep the fear level high and to guarantee large budgets and expanded powers for their Justice Department, the actual "attempts" of the Nixon administration to cope with organized crime have resembled a somewhat sinister update of the Keystone Cops.

For example, up to 1,000 of Kleindienst's vaunted 1600 inditees in gambling and organized crime may have their cases thrown out for somewhat dubious "improper procedures" technicalities. A Miami attorney named James Hogan has "discovered" irregularities on signatures required for electronic surveillance authorizations. Court-approved wiretaps require written authorization by the Attorney General of a designated representative, in this case Will Wilson. Instead of being signed by John Mitchell or by Wilson, the authorizations in question were signed by aides, thus rendering thousands of wiretap authorizations — and the indictments based on them — useless.

Hogan himself is a long-time syndicate attorney and a partner of Ben Cohen, a former political boss of Miami Beach who figures prominently in the Forties' takeover of Miami by organized crime. The case in which Hogan made his discovery involved the busting of the largest heroin/cocaine ring in Miami, many of whose members were Cuban refugees. Inspection of various court papers, including wiretap authorizations, confirmed "irregularities" in the signature — Will Wilson's signature. While resembling his actual handwriting, the signatures appeared as "Wil" instead of "Will".

While it may seem strange for an aide to misspell his boss' name, it seems even stranger that Hogan took the case. His normal fees start in five figures but he has been working on behalf of his court-declared indigent client for more than two years with minimal compensation. While Hogan is known as a "very thorough" attorney, it would be interesting to find out more about the circumstances in which he discovered the "irregularities".

Even more interesting, perhaps, are the circumstances under which Richard Kleindienst was offered a bribe of \$100,000 to quash several mob indictments. In sworn testimony in November 1971, Kleindienst admitted to being offered the \$100,000 bribe (which would be paid in the form of a contribution to Nixon's 1972 campaign) in exchange for stopping prosecution against several underworld figures caught in a stock fraud case. The bribe was offered by an aide of Senator Hiram Fong, a Republican from Hawaii. The aide had worked previously with Kleindienst through Fong's position on the Senate Judiciary Committee. Kleindienst said he refused the offer but he also said he did not realize it was a bribe for an entire week!

In cross examination, the prosecutor asked Kleindienst, "If you had regarded the conversation as something regarding a bribe offer you would have immediately report it, would you not?"

"Yes sir," replied Kleindienst, "I would have."

Kleindienst admitted he reported the bribe a full week later, upon learning from J. Edgar Hoover that Federal agents were investigating the case.

One would expect the Attorney General of the United States to be more alert. But what is more troubling are reports aired in the Washington Post

shortly after the indictments in the stock fraud case in question (and ten months before Kleindienst's testimony on the bribe). Those reports quoted "sources at the U.S. Attorney's office in New York" and indicated that after the meeting between Kleindienst and Fong's aide, "Kleindienst immediately contacted Justice's Criminal Division [then headed by Will Wilson] and ... an FBI agent was assigned to infiltrate the group of alleged conspirators".

Do we now believe Kleindienst's story that he "didn't realize" he had been offered a bribe, or do we believe the U.S. Attorney's office in New York? Did Will Wilson and the Justice Department hold off a week while Kleindienst "made up his mind" that he had been offered a bribe, or was the decision whether or not to take it? And did Hoover and the FBI somehow interfere?

Perhaps the answer comes in the final outcome of the actual prosecution involved. The defendants in the stock-fraud case included Meyer Lansky's son-in-law, a former director of the Bank of Miami Beach and Johnny Dio, a notorious racketeer long associated with Jimmy Hoffa. They were acquitted, while the messengers who offered the bribe were convicted. One wonders if that \$100,000 did not find its way into the Republican secret treasury after all.

The Tip of the Iceberg

"The organized criminal relies on physical terror and psychological intimidation, on economic retaliation and political bribery, on citizen's indifference and government acquiescence. He corrupts our governing institutions and subverts our democratic processes."

— Richard Nixon, April 24, 1969

Someone should tell President Nixon that resisting the power of organized crime demands, above all, a President with a clean slate.

Nixon's life is like a complex jigsaw puzzle, the pieces of which have been shuffled so as to defy complete reconstruction. Some of the crucial pieces have been removed, so a full picture cannot be achieved. It is no accident that no other politician has been so much written about, yet so little understood.

Indeed, much has been made of the "enigma" of Richard Nixon, his tight-lipped bearing in relation to his personal life, his unwillingness to divulge what's really on his mind.

But maybe the answer to the enigma lies in his old poker-playing instincts, in the unflinching ability to keep quiet when he's sitting on cards best hidden from the table.

For there is one indisputable fact about Richard Nixon's career — his ascendancy to the pinnacle of American power has required twenty-five years of care and feeding by some very wealthy and very reactionary men, and an extraordinary number of them have maintained connections with the world of organized crime.

During Nixon's years in office the underworld empire in the United States has prospered almost unrestricted by the Federal government. From its base in the gigantic resources of heroin traffic, gambling, prostitution, "protection," and a host of other enterprises of violence against society, organized crime has moved like a bulldozer into the world of legal, "respectable" business.

Every link between Richard Nixon and organized crime, however marginal, is of significance, if for no other reason because he is President. And there are people all over America, from government intelligence agents to hotel waiters, who have Nixon stories to tell. He covers his tracks well, but not well enough.

The full extent of Nixon's involvement with organized crime is just beginning to surface. The evidence in this article is merely the top of a dirty iceberg that will slowly become visible over the coming years.

The milieu in which he has traveled for three decades, and in which so many of his friends, associates, and appointees have been related to the mob, throw a long and permanent shadow over everything Richard Nixon the "public servant" has ever said, and over everything his political life has ever meant.

For in light of his career, both past and present, Richard M. Nixon seems to be the factual embodiment of Ralph Salerno's prediction that organized crime would someday put its own man in the White House. □

The information in this article was gathered during a six-month investigation carried out in many cities, primarily Miami, New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Diego, Las Vegas, Dallas, Austin, Galveston, Tallahassee, and San Francisco. Sources included interviews with over a hundred people; court documents (including deeds, mortgages, etc.); research in the National Archives, Washington, D.C.; organized crime intelligence files (both private and government); and newspaper clippings.

Unsettling, Disturbing, Critical . . .

Computers and Automation, established 1951 and therefore the oldest magazine in the field of computers and data processing, believes that the profession of information engineer includes not only competence in handling information using computers and other means, but also a broad responsibility, in a professional and engineering sense, for:

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In the same way, a bridge engineer takes a professional responsibility for the reliability and significance of the data he uses, and the safety and efficiency of the bridge he builds, for human beings to risk their lives on.

Accordingly, Computers and Automation publishes from time to time articles and other information related to socially useful input and output of data systems in a broad sense. To this end we seek to publish what is unsettling, disturbing, critical — but productive of thought and an improved and safer "house" for all humanity, an earth in which our children and later generations may have a future, instead of facing extinction.

The professional information engineer needs to relate his engineering to the most important and most serious problems in the world today: war, nuclear weapons, pollution, the population explosion, and many more.