

~~is~~ insert on hunt-bridge-bittman-mittler any one where its. or note on mittler mention in Y Oday section. Consider as parenthetical insertion there.

During the handling of the payoffs these prestigious lawyers started playing cops-and-robbers parts. They really did the kinds of things we see in cheap gangster-type movies. By the time the major conspiracy trial was drawing to its end around Christmas, 1974, disclosures caused no indignant editorials or protests from the bar. By then it had become more than apparent that all the major criminals were lawyers, from Attorneys general and their major assistants down. There never has been a case in which there was so much criminal activity by so many lawyers.

Last of the conspiracy-case witnesses was Kenneth Parkinson, CREEP lawyer. Part of his defense when ~~tax~~ he took the stand in his own defense is that he had been no more than an incurious messenger-boy, taking messages to and from Hunt's lawyer, Bittman. (Post 12/19/74) They met, he testified, just before he received his first phone call from Bittman on July 6, 1972, which was immediately after Bittman became Hunt's lawyer. That was over the bagman approach by Ulasewicz. The next day Ulasewicz dropped \$25,000 off for Bittman in the convenient phone booth ~~office~~ in the lobby of his office building. (Post 12/19/74)

Shortly thereafter there was another of these clandestine meetings. Bittman and his partner, Austin Mittler, drove to the building in which Parkinson and O'Brien are officed and instead of going up they simply sat there during rush hour for Parkinson to come down and confer in their car. The distance between the two offices is only a couple of block, an easy walk that required less time than taking a car from and returning it to a parking lot.

Their next meetings coincided with Hunt's increased demands that September. ~~They~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ Their posh offices were not suited for meetings between prestigious lawyers then. Instead they met "in a ~~quite~~ quiet nook of the Renwick Art ~~Gallery~~ ~~Nixon~~ Gallery" near CREEP headquarters. (George Lardner's words, Post 12/19/74) Coffee shops, too, substituted for offices for meetings the real purposes of which were to protect Nixon.

However, they did not entirely avoid their offices, Parkinson testified. He did take \$20,000 to Bittman's office, in cash. And Bittman did bring him a memorandum from Hunt

when Hunt really put the blackmail bite on. Involvement in this in any way was criminal. So, naturally, Parkinson merely xeroxed a copy. Bittman didn't bring him an extra copy and he didn't read it, he swore - not once. "I didn't feel it was any of my business." How he knew this without reading it the reader can decide. He merely swore to it. It was on the "laundry list," which is to say the list of ^{Mrs. Hunt's} financial demands.

Jeb Magruder had blurted out a ~~full~~ confession. Parkinson had made notes on it, including the details. Magruder also swore falsely.

With this evidence, the blackmail demands and confession, what did Parkinson do?

He ~~shredded~~ shredded the Magruder confession in CREEP's mechanical memory hole and gave the blackmail threat to John Mean. (AP 12/19/74)

Thus did evidence disappear and thus did the eminences of the law defend society.