

Office of Special Prosecutor-Staff HW 3/8/74

The lead story of the Columbia Law Alumni Observer (Vol. 3, No. 3) for 2/25/74 is a prideful and as apparently befits such a journal, remarkably uncritical report that no fewer than eight of Columbia's alumni ~~xxx~~ are staff lawyers, up to the No. 2 1/2 position, recruited by Cox.

The total staff of the office, including all non-legal employees, is 80. Or, this onelaw school provided 10% of the staff and more than twice that high a percentage of the legal staff.

All eight had previously served in the Department of Justice, most as assistant U.S. Attorneys, one as assistant solicitor general, etc. Three had been clerks to federal judges, none liberal. Two had served Leventhal, in Washington, one Medina (the red-baiting D.A. ~~xxxx~~ in NYC?) Leventhal takes rather reactionary views, as I recall.

Lacovara, the No. 2 1/2, had worked with Bork and had a liking for him. Although Lacovara described himself as decidedly unhappy about the Saturday night massacre, it did not last long, as the Observer has it: "The fact that it was Robert Bork who had carried Mr. Cox's letter was 'particularly dismaying' to Mr. Lacovara because he had at one point in his career 'worked with a developed a fondness for the man.' He described Mr. Bork as being 'very decent about ~~it~~ the whole thing' during their conversation."

(How fine indeed for Bork to have been "so decent about the whole thing!")

Ar 30 this adviser to Jaworski has seven full-time lawyers working for him and as many children at home.

Ruff goes out of his way to say that the people in the Department of Justice-where he was- are all "honest," an experience all non-DJers might not duplicate.

If this is a sample, then the Office of the Special Prosecutor is not a haven of radic-libs or new-left types.

These seem to be the people who prepared the drafts of the indictments over which I am less than happy.

It is probably presumed that those with prosecutorial experience are ideally suited for a prosecutorial office. And it is generally believed that the young are more ~~vig~~ vigorous and less inclined toward compromise. Of this crew I would be inclined to believe this cannot be the case.

My experience with the new breed of Department of Justice lawyers, including the young, is that regardless of background there is nothing they cannot and do not distort, twist, lie, swear falsely and even prejure themselves about.

This experience is in four cases in court on FOI and in dealing with them in DJ offices and by mail. Some of the young ones in the Deputy's office are pretty farout types, witness the letters written for Kleindienst's signature in 718-70 and Rolapp's bland statement that they regard as meaningless the Attorney General's Memorandum on the law.

If there is one of this new breed not of this character, he or she has not been involved in any of these cases in which a number have been.

The general record is that there is an interest greater than that of the law and justice. It is the immediate desires, regardless of law, of the administration.

They are attuned to the times and the needs of areer advancement.

Most if not all are appointees of this administration within the Department and the offices of U.S. Attorneys.