

House aide Charles Colson tried to pull strings inside the Securities and Exchange Commission, which regulates the corporate world. We can now add another jigsaw piece to the puzzle.

Last January, aide Fred Malek was preparing recommendations for President Nixon for the SEC chairmanship. Colson shot off a memo to Malek, dated Jan. 8, 1973, urging:

"When you are putting together a position paper for the President, would you please record me as favoring Brad Cook. Even though he is young, he is well experienced in politics, he knows the Commission and would be able to move immediately on some of the very sensitive problems the Commission has. I think he would also be totally responsive here . . ."

Cook got the job, and Colson went into private practice. Not long afterward, Colson wanted Charles K. M. Mallory appointed to an SEC post. This was urged by Colson's law partner, Charles Morin, who pleaded in an internal memo: "In short, let's get this guy in that job or Cook may turn into a disaster for us." Morin urged that Cook "ought to be reminded of how he got the job and how he almost did not get the job."

An indignant Mallory announced he wasn't "going to dance to anyone's tune." Cook resigned under fire on May 16.

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Colson's Coup — It has been published that former White