

Figures Linked to Maryland Probe

I. H. Hammerman

I. H. (Bud) Hammerman is one of the leading financial and civic leaders in Baltimore, a busy and energetic man whose home base is his family's mortgage banking business.

"He covers a million things and goes everywhere, and I don't know how he does it," says the executive director of the Advertising Club of Baltimore, of which Hammerman is a board member and past president.

The family business, the S. L. Hammerman Organization, Inc., was begun by his father, the late Sam Hammerman, who began his career as a bricklayer and saved enough money by living frugally to buy land and start building apartments.

Young Hammerman, a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce and the University of Pennsylvania, joined his father's firm after serving in the military in World War II.

"Mr. Sam" made his son "work his way up, rather than being stuck in there as an officer right off the bat," according to a friend, Howard Scaggs, president of American National Building and Loan Association. His first job was as a construction worker.

Hammerman followed his father's example not only in the business world but in civic and philanthropic activities. He has served on the board of directors of Loyola College of Baltimore (to which his father donated the library) and the University of Pennsylvania, and

Jerome Wolff

Jerome Benjamin Wolff moved from Towson to Annapolis to Washington as his political patron, Spiro T. Agnew, rose from Baltimore County executive to the governorship of Maryland and then to the vice presidency.

As the county's assistant director of public works and later as the vice presidential assistant for science and technology, "Jerry" Wolff worked in the background.

But in state government, where he served as chairman-director of the old State Roads Commission from 1967 to 1969, Wolff was perhaps the most visible, voluble, outspoken and energetic member of Agnew's administrative team.

Early in the Agnew administration, when the new governor was taking a road show of top officials on a get-acquainted tour of county courthouses, Wolff mastered the art of delivering bad news with witty one-liners that would dissolve his disappointed audiences into laughter.

He would frequently entertain fellow members of the roads commission, who were chosen as a reward for past political services, by commenting on some development with an apt quotation from Shakespeare or another classic author. Sometimes he would interrupt meetings, take off his horn-rimmed glasses and tell a joke.

His tenure at the roads commission—which has since been reorganized and made part of the State Department of Transportation—is still remembered as the time when tradition became second to performance.

"He didn't care that this is the way we've always done something," a former associate recalled yesterday. "If a new way is better, he'd say 'let's change.' We did."

A Chicago-born lawyer and engineer specializing in environmental matters, Wolff moved to Maryland in 1952 and served in various Baltimore County positions before becoming the No. 2 man in the public works department.

When tapped by Agnew

In the middle 1960s, Sam Hammerman died and his son took over the presidency of the mortgage banking business, which also owns and manages apartment and office buildings.

Hammerman, who lives with his wife and four children in the fashionable Upper Park Heights section of Baltimore, is described by friends and associates as "very aggressive and dynamic," "very congenial" and "very patriotic."

He is described as a longtime and close friend of Vice President Agnew, and served as campaign chairman when Agnew ran successfully for governor in 1966.



JEROME WOLFF

... voluble, energetic

for the roads post, Wolff agreed to divest himself of all interest in his two engineering consulting firms. Agnew said at the time that the terms of his appointment "go considerably beyond the requirements of the conflict-of-interest law."

Since leaving the vice presidential staff in 1970, Wolff became president of Greiner Environmental Systems, Inc., an affiliate of a major Baltimore firm that has done much work for the state government, including consulting for the recently-completed parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

Now 55, he lives with his wife in Stevenson, a northwest suburb of Baltimore. He has two grown stepchildren.

Wolff is reported to be one target of the federal grand jury in Baltimore investigating possible violation of bribery, conspiracy and tax laws in connection with an alleged kickback



I. H. HAMMERMAN

... "goes everywhere"

has been an officer of the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations. Friends say he has donated generously to schools, synagogues, churches and charities.

scheme. He and Lester Matz, another target of the investigation, have been hinting to investigators, according to sources, that in return for immunity or reduced charges they would be willing to supply information about Agnew.

J. Walter Jones

J. Walter Jones is described by a Baltimore political figure as being, along with I. H. (Bud) Hammerman, "very close to Agnew—the comparison would be with the guys around the President—Bebe Rebozo and Robert Abplanalp."

Jones, a wealthy Annapolis banker and real estate man, has been a principal fund-raiser for Maryland Republicans, and particularly Agnew.

Now he, Agnew and Hammerman are reported to be under federal investigation for possible violation of bribery, conspiracy and tax laws.

According to a Republican state senator, Jones began his career as a real estate salesman in Parkville, just north of the Baltimore city line. He became a real estate appraiser and soon started purchasing land and putting together housing developments.

Along the way, he became involved in Republican politics and became a friend and supporter of Agnew.

His success as a fund-raiser was evident last year,

William Fornoff

Until he resigned and pleaded guilty to a relatively minor tax law violation in early June, William E. Fornoff was in charge of managing Baltimore County's government—a \$238-million-a-year operation.

Tall, stocky, gray haired and noted as a good dresser, Fornoff, 56, had been outspoken in his dealings with the Baltimore County Council, before which he was the chief representative of the county administration. Some Council members referred to him as "Wild Bill."

The county he worked for, which almost surrounds the city of Baltimore, is Maryland's second largest in population (its 630,000 total is second only to Prince George's County). It includes both Maryland's heaviest industry—the Sparrow's Point steel complex—and its most fashionable society—among the residents of the Green Spring Valley hunt country north of the city.

Fornoff had held the job since 1957, except for a 15-month period in 1965-66 when he worked for the Arundel Corp., a sand and gravel company.

He was the No. 2 county official and served under four elected county executives, including Spiro T. Agnew (1962-66) and Dale Anderson, the Democrat who succeeded Agnew.

A resident of Lutherville near the county seat in Towson, Fornoff is said to love

Lester Matz

Lester Matz, 49, is a highly successful civil engineer who, with John Childs in 1955, formed Matz, Childs and Associates.

The consulting engineering firm is based in Towson, the Baltimore County seat, and is nationally known. Much of its work is performed in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

The firm performed extensive work for the state of Maryland when Spiro T. Agnew was governor and has continued to do so under subsequent administrations.

Both Matz and Childs have contributed to Agnew campaigns in the past, according to Maryland campaign records.

Matz returned to his Pikesville home Monday night after a vacation and politely but firmly refused to discuss with a reporter the Agnew investigation.

Matz was described yesterday by a county official as "a sort of Horatio Alger who began making a bundle of money about 15 years ago."

The official said Matz is known best by persons with whom he works but that those persons "aren't saying much right now."

Matz is one of those under investigation by the federal grand jury in Baltimore and, according to sources, is one of two persons (the other is Jerome B. Wolff) who have been hinting to investigators that in return for immunity or reduced charges they would be willing to supply information on Agnew.

when he was chairman of the Maryland Finance Committee to Re-Elect the President. More than a month before the election, Jones reported that his committee had gone well over its goal of \$400,000, and the Nixon-Agnew ticket won Maryland in a landslide.

Jones, a wine connoisseur, lives in Annapolis and works out of a branch office of his real estate business there. He also is board chairman of the Chesapeake National Bank and the Atlantic Mobile Corp.



WILLIAM E. FORNOFF
... was No. 2 official

hunting pheasant on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Fornoff's office was on the third floor of the County Office Building next to the county executive's and a large conference room. One county official recalled yesterday that Fornoff "sat there (in the conference room) like Henry VIII calling in the underlings and laying down the law."

On June 4, Fornoff pleaded guilty to one count of interfering with the administration of federal internal revenue laws, a felony with a maximum sentence of three years in jail and a \$5,000 fine. He has not yet been sentenced.

Before entering his plea, Fornoff told a federal grand jury in Baltimore that since 1967 he had funneled cash kickbacks from several local contractors "to another official in Baltimore County."



J. WALTER JONES
... GOP fund-raiser



DALE ANDERSON
... probe "unreasonable"

Dale Anderson

Dale Anderson, 56, has been one of Maryland's most powerful Democratic politicians since he succeeded Spiro T. Agnew as Baltimore County executive in 1967. He was re-elected in 1970.

The top elected official in a predominantly Democratic county that has the second largest population in Maryland (it has fewer people than Prince George's County only), Anderson also served as the state's Democratic national committeeman from 1970 to 1972.

At a closed meeting last June 7, Anderson admitted to six of the county's seven councilmen that he had received notice from a federal grand jury that he was under investigation in a probe of alleged kickbacks between contractors and county officials.

Sources attending the closed meeting said Anderson also said he believed that he had been implicated in an illegal payoff scheme by his former administrative officer, William E. Fornoff.

Anderson told the councilmen he was innocent of wrongdoing. The investigation is continuing.

The county executive yesterday denounced the current federal grand jury probe centering around Agnew as "unreasonable, unfair and vicious."

Anderson made the comment at his weekly press conference in the county office building in Towson. He then refused further comment on the Agnew investigation.

Anderson spoke loudly and clearly yesterday while vigorously waving his arms. He showed no signs of damage from a stroke he suffered June 20.

The stroke, described at the time as mild, left him with some muscle weakness, slight speech difficulties and a mild loss of balance.

At the time, Anderson's physician said the county executive had also suffered some mental confusion affecting his ability to concentrate.