

San Francisco's Mayor [Joseph] Alioto has blasted the Nixon Administration's handling of the Watergate bugging case. He told reporters at the Young Democrats' meeting in San Francisco [7 Mar]:

Alioto [voice]: There isn't any doubt that the FBI has been engaged in a collusive - a collusive - investigation, and there isn't any doubt in my mind that the real question is not whether they should confirm him [Gray] but whether they should indict him. And a grand jury should be called to determine whether or not there was a rigged investigation, in which the suspects were given the files. And if this was directed by John Mitchell, John Mitchell's apparently false statements before the Congressional body, and in the private action relating to Watergate, ought to be examined by that same grand jury. I'm quite serious about that.

Announcer: Alioto said the Federal grand jury should investigate the whole matter and should determine whether acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray should be indicted for obstructing justice.

[Complete.]