

Watergate should come as no surprise

Bob Kahn

When one considers the history of Nixon campaigns and the past record of close associates, Watergate and the manner of using funds contributed to the Committee to Reelect the President (CREEP) should come as no surprise.

In 1946, Nixon ran against Jerry. Voorhiss for the 12th district (Whittier). Voorhis, a Yale Phi Beta Kappa from a well-to-do family had started his working experience as a factory worker and had been elected to Congress in 1936, from a predominantly Republican district. Murray Chotiner (currently accused of passing out CREEP money without recording the expenditure) was Nixon's campaign manager. Nixon managed to call Voorhis a Communist, alleging control by Moscow (the start of Nixon's use of the charge of "Communist" against those he did not like). And, of course, there was the "unidentified campaign" — telephone calls to voters secretly telling them Voorhis was a Communist (Nixon denied all knowledge of this).

In 1950, Nixon ran for the Senate against. Congresswoman. Helen Gahagan Douglas. Chotiner again led the campaign. With cross-filing then permitted, Nixon, with typical honesty, sent campaign materials to Democrats headlined "As one Democrat to Another". Nixon used a planted man to harass Douglas at her talks. Nixon flooded the state with 500,000 copies of a phony record comparing the voting of Douglas and Vito Marcantonio, an American Labor Party Congressman from New York city and often accused of being a Socialist.

In 1952, when running for Nice President, the world became aware of his propensity to accept money from people who control

him — and after disclosure he gave his famous "Checkers" TV address. Chotiner was still with him. And Nixon was pretending to believe in Fisenhower's "Crusade for Political Purity." William Rogers was now part of the Nixon entourage. Dana Smith ran the fund—and when he announced that it had collected \$18,250—he forgot to mention an additional \$11,000 received after Nixon's nomination for VP. (Just like CREEP.)

By 1960, when Nixon ran for President, people like Herb Klein and Bob Finch had joined the growing list of "faithful followers." When Nixon ran for Governor of California in 1962 he unleashed

the worst possible methods. When one of his local headquarters was

caught selling a phony booklet claiming that Pat Brown was a communist. Nixon said, "I think this kind of pamphlet is a disgrace." I repudiate it. If I had known that anybody (connected with the Republican campaign) was distributing it, I would have stopped it instantly."

Yet a trial in San Francisco in 1964 produced a confession that Nixon approved and paid for a phony mailing to 500,000 Democrats by an organization named "Committee for the Preservation of the Democratic party" in which it was argued that electing Brown would destroy the party. Recently, Los Angeles TV stations have been running photographs of the two checks, totaling \$70,000, and headed "Nixon for Governor" that paid for the mailing.

Exposed in that trial were Nixon's campaign manager. Bob Haldeman, his finance manager. Maurice Stans, his present attorney, Kalmbach, his communications director, Herb Klein, Cap the Knife Weinberg, and the always present Murray Chotiner. These are some of the people who appear to have run the Watergate affair — one might call them "the creeps of CREEP."

America applauds a man who works up from the gutter to the presidency-but not a man who drags the presidency down into

the gutter.

SOME THOUGHTS ON PASSING STATEMENTS

Cap the Knife Weinberg said recently of a school district whose impacted area funds Weinberg had cut in half and who, as a result, had to lay off half the professional staff and so excluded the military base students from the school, that the action "indicates to me that the man (the superintendent) fundamentally is more interested in money than the education of children." Old Cap the Knife hasn't missed a paycheck at the public trough for years — but he expects half the teachers to work without pay — because Cap cut, the funds.

Nixon said April 17, after discovering something (perhaps a daily newspaper) on March 21, that "no individual holding a position of major importance in the administration should be given immunity."

Nixon's private counsel, John Dean III, has asked for immunity — and one can now realize that Nixon's statement that no immunity should be given was merely another method of prolonging the investigation and hiding the facts. If immunity is not granted, these great associates of Mr. Nixon

are going to take the 5th Amendment — and thus a suggestion that Nixon gave creating the impression of aiding the investigation, is actually instructions to his staff to hinder it as much as possible.

John Mitchell, then the chief law enforcement officer of the United States, admitted that he heard Dean and others planning to bug Watergate. Conspiracy to commit crime, whether a felony or a misdemeanor, is a felony offense — yet the chief law enforcement officer of the United States took no action.

Attorney General Richard Kleindienst has sworn to uphold the laws of the United States — but he keeps taking himself out of cases because of his connections with the parties concerned. Apparently Mr. Nixon, in his drive for law and order, appointed an Attorney General who cavorts with all the criminals.

L. Patrick Gray, a retired professional Navy officer, who is thoroughly familiar with the fact that military personnel, as a result of the Nuremberg trials, are specifically instructed that they are not required to obey illegal orders, didn't think that an order from Ehrlichman and Dean to destroy evidence was an illegal order.

And then Gray expects the world to 'elleve that he kept the two files for a week, without destroying them, but did not read them. Gray in a few months destroyed the reputation the FBI spent 50 years in building.

And one final thought—with CIA types like Liddy and Hunt committing crimes all over the world and creating phony cables to implicate John Kennedy in the murder of Ngo Dinh Diem—do you still believe that Oswald was the only one involved in killing John Kennedy? The evidence is pretty clear that shooting took place from at least three directions but President Johnson and the Warren commission effectively covered up, overlooked, or distorted much of the evidence available.

And ten months after Watergate was traced to the White House. Nixon has yet to act. God protect us from this man.