

# G.O.P. Policy Defender

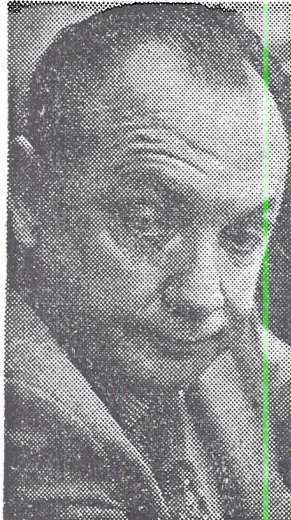
Robert Carleton Wilson

NYTimes

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WASHINGTON, April 7— In a case that involves a combination of campaign financing, San Diego and the Republican party, such as the I.T.T. case, it was not too surprising that the name of Representative Robert Carleton Wilson came up.

The affable advertising public relations executive from San Diego has a gift for gab that has kept him in the limelight defending Republican policy as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee. Mr. Wilson, an amateur chef who believes in a health food diet, spends most of his time and energy on behalf of the committee, which is responsible for raising funds to help elect Republicans to the House, and to his 36th Congressional District, with its huge naval installation and many military dependents. He is the fourth ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee.



The New York Times

*Often on the defensive and always optimistic.*

### Quoted Mrs. Beard

Mr. Wilson was reported to have said that Mrs. Dita Beard, the Washington lobbyist for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, confirmed that she had written the controversial memorandum linking the White House to an alleged deal by which the corporation would help finance the Republican convention in San Diego next summer in return for a settlement of three anti-trust suits against I.T.T.

As a spokesman for the party, Mr. Wilson, who celebrated his 56th birthday two days ago, finds controversy nothing new. During the nineteen sixties, his attacks on Democrats predated similar attacks made by Vice President Agnew.

For example, Mr. Wilson described President Kennedy's foreign policy as one of "defeat, retreat and deceit," and termed "naive" Mr. Kennedy's attitude toward the Communist threat during the Cuban missile crisis. He described former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara as "a national disaster."

election and Bob felt pretty good after fighting a defensive battle and losing only nine seats."

Mr. Wilson is one of the few members of Congress who never graduated from college. He attended San Diego State College for some advertising courses and the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles.

"Bob is somewhat of an amateur artist, if you want to call that stuff he does art," another longtime friend commented. "What he does is, he takes stones and small rocks that are shaped like turtle shells and he paints them in original design and puts his personal inscription on them. His office is covered with them and he sends them to people as gifts."

He is also an amateur horticulturist.

Mr. Wilson was born in Calexico, Calif., April 5, 1916. He married Laura Jean Bryant in 1934. They have two married daughters and a son who is a minister in San Diego and eight grandchildren. Mr. Wilson served as an Army private in World War II and is now a lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve.

Friends describe him as a likable man with a good sense of humor. He has blond hair, graying at the temples, which he wore until recently in a crew cut but now has permitted to grow longer. He dresses in a "California mod style" of wide lapels, buttons on the pockets and light colored clothes.

"We call it high fashion Robert Hall's and we both promised our wives that if they stopped shopping at Saks, we'd stay away from mod-clothes," an associate said.

### Defensive 10 Years

Mr. Wilson has been chairman of the fund-raising committee for 10 years. He has yet to realize his goal of promoting a republican takeover of the House. Indeed, most of those years have been spent in defensive positions.

"But Bob is the perennial optimist," one close associate remarked. "In 1970, the party avoided the normal 20 to 40 seats lost during an off-year