

Rival Banquet Protests Law Day Speech by U.S. Security Official

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Special to The New York Times

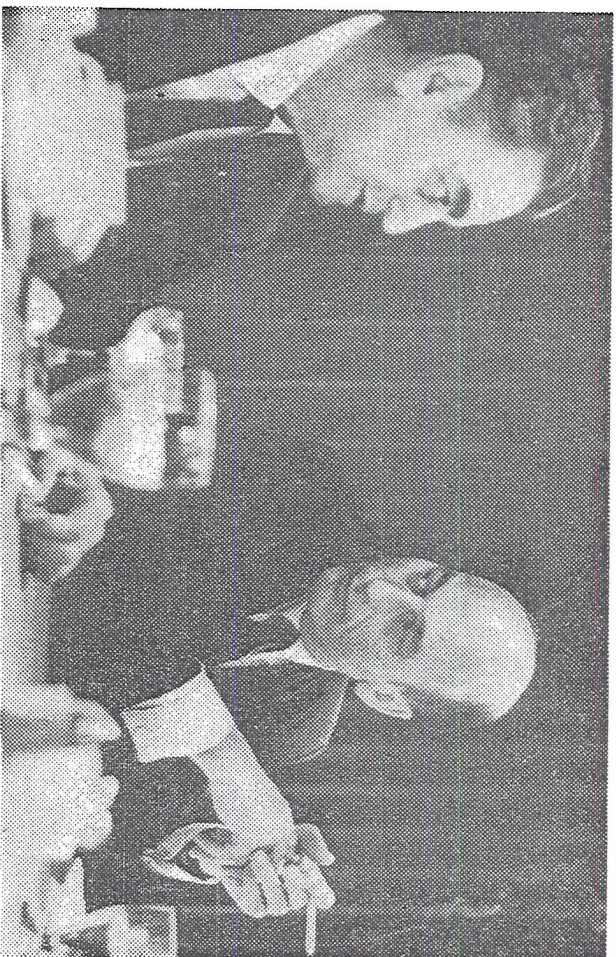
WASHINGTON, April 27—

Robert C. Mardian, the Justice Department's chief internal security official, delivered today the bar association's official Law Day speech to 100 lawyers in a banquet room while three times as many lawyers participated in a rival meeting in the adjoining room.

The rival Law Day meeting was convened by young lawyers after the District of Columbia Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association picked Mr. Mardian, the associate Attorney General in charge of the Internal Security Division, as the speaker at the annual banquet.

Declaring that the choice of Mr. Mardian was "wholly inappropriate to the meaning and spirit of Law Day," a newly formed group of young law associates and "public interest" lawyers, called the Washington Council of Lawyers, hired the adjoining room in the Sonesta Hotel.

About 300 lawyers jammed that room to hear Senator Harold F. Hughes of Iowa accuse the Nixon Administration of fostering "a private climate wherein official spying is the name of the game." The banquet hall next door was half filled as Mr. Mardian defended the Government's surveillance program.



The New York Times/Mike Len Federal Judge John J. Sirica, left, with Robert C. Mardian at official Law Day luncheon

nounced candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, delivered one of his sharpest attacks on the Nixon Administration.

He compared it to "a giant glacier moving across the face of the land," diminishing individual rights and creating a "trend toward repression — the relentlessly increasing emphasis on wiretapping, sub-bugging, no-knock entry, sub-

poening of private notebooks and tapes from news reporters, Government of dissident political groups and the attempts by the Government to intimidate the communications media."

Senator Hughes also accused the Administration of making "a mockery of the Federal Judiciary" by asking for a Supreme Court order against an antiwar encampment on the

Capitol Mall and then rescinding it.

He added that the Nixon Administration had "eroded established programs that benefit and protect the minorities and underprivileged," while passing out favors to corporate giants that flout "the law and short-change the consumer."

Mr. Mardian spoke to an older group of about 100 lawyers and judges. He said that the assassination of President Kennedy might have been made possible by what the Warren Commission called the Federal Bureau of Investigation's restrictive view of its duty to investigate Lee Harvey Oswald.

He also suggested that the slayings of four students at Kent State University by National Guardsmen had resulted

from inadequate intelligence of the situation on the campus that made the guardsmen quick to shoot.

Knowledge of what to expect in such volatile situations is necessary to agencies that must deal with public unrest, Mr. Mardian said. He concluded that this need for information made Government intelligence gathering "an obligation rather than a right or privilege."

At the rival banquet, Terry F. Lenzner, the former director of the Office of Economic Opportunity's office of legal services who was dismissed in a policy dispute with the Administration, charged that a top Justice Department official, Jerry Leonard, had had a security check run on two legal service lawyers who had supported a controversial anti-poverty project.

After the speech, Mr. Lenzner identified the two as Bert W. Griffin, former chief of the legal services unit, and Simon Rosenthal, a staff member. Mr. Lenzner said that Donald Rumsfeld, then director of the poverty agency, had ordered Mr. Lenzner to discharge Mr. Rosenthal because of information in the file that Mr. Rosenthal had subscribed to radical magazines and had belonged to the Lawyer's Guild, a left-leaning legal organization.

Mr. Griffin and Mr. Rosenthal had backed a proposed anti-poverty program in Milwaukee, Mr. Leonard's home city. They were not discharged but have left the program.

Mr. Leonard, who is now administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, said tonight that he had merely passed along to Mr. Rumsfeld information about Mr. Rosenthal that had been provided by people in Milwaukee.