

Haunting 'Shadow' Of Watergate

SFChronicle

MAY 8 1973



Congressman Don Clausen (Rep-Crescent City) said yesterday that the "ugly shadow" of Watergate will haunt the nation for a long time to come.

He said "public trust, confidence, credibility and faith in the highest levels of government have been dealt a severe blow."

Clausen called Watergate "an ill-conceived, unnecessary, criminal conspiracy" engineered in large part by what he called youthful White House staffers.

"If there was a 'common ment."

denominator' within this group of administrative and political assistants, it was their intense loyalty to President Nixon," he said in a newsletter to constituents.

Nothing, Clausen remarked, "can justify the wrongdoing, the untruths, the attempts to cover up, and the shattered faith of the American people."

Clausen, elected to Congress in 1963, said he intends to "work diligently to restore the confidence, credibility and respect for authority in our system of govern-