

## 'I Knew All Those Bums'

# Alioto on Watergate

### Sacramento

San Francisco Mayor Joseph L. Alioto said yesterday the Watergate scandal lends credence at last to his contention the Nixon administration targeted him for "political persecution" in 1969-72.

"I knew all those bums before they became celebrities," said Alioto, referring to persons implicated in var-

ious investigations.

"Men involved in my litigation are involved with burglars, bribers, obstruction of justice, threatening people, making up stories, burglarizing psychiatrist's offices.

"That whole picture," Alioto continued in a telephone interview from Paris, where he is nearing the end of a five-week European vaca-

tion, "makes plausible my original charge that I was the victim of political persecution."

It was administration politics, Alioto said, that led to a *Look* magazine article linking him to the Mafia, which he disproved in court; federal bribery and mail fraud charges stemming from attorney fee splitting, which were dismissed by a judge, and a civil suit involving the same fee splitting, which he won.

"I'm really in a position to sing a couple of choruses of, 'I told you so.' But I'm not going to," said Alioto.

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