

*McGovern's Reward*

With the anniversary of Watergate upon us, I wonder if we might not pause amid the orgy of self-congratulation in which the press is engaged (and to which only you are entitled) to say a few words about somebody else who saw this matter clearly and early for what it was. The man I have in mind talked for months last year about the burglary, about the corruption in raising funds, about the secret cash stash in the CRP offices, about sabotage and espionage, about the sale and lease of the government and its favors, and about the attempt to turn the Department of Justice into the cutting edge of a police state. I refer, of course, to Senator George McGovern, whose reward for so accurately describing the situation was to be alternately ignored and scorned in the press as either a bone for going on so about Watergate, or as "shrill" and full of "excessive rhetoric." Maybe the Constitution won't permit a new election, but isn't there, at least a Pulitzer Prize for politicians?

FRANK MANKIEWICZ:

Washington.

*(The writer was national political coordinator of the McGovern campaign.)*