

# Washington Director is optimistic about impeachment

Charles Morgan, Jr. is a remarkable man and as one ACLU staffer put it, "I'm sure glad he's on our side and not against us." Morgan is the Director of the National ACLU office in Washington, D.C., where he is in charge of the ACLU pursuit of civil liberties in Congress and the Federal Government. Obviously, that is no small job.

Morgan began working for ACLU in Birmingham, Alabama in the early '60's where he was a leading figure in the civil rights movement. He then became Director of the ACLU Southern Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia where he continued that work. He has been the attorney on many of the ACLU's most famous cases in the past ten year's and today he is still in the forefront of ACLU activity. With the campaign for impeachment on, he again is providing strong leadership.

Ever since the Watergate related scandals began, Morgan has been watchdogging the events for the sake of civil liberties. He sought a new trial for the original Watergate defendants, he criticized the lack of cross-examination in the Senate hearings, he protested Judge Sirica's sentencing procedures, he defended Agnew against leaks about his case to the press and he is

representing some of the people who Nixon had wiretaps placed on.

Just after the National ACLU Board passed the impeachment resolution this month, Morgan was in San Francisco where he met with ACLU-NC staff, Board members and Chapter representatives. During that meeting, he explained why it is necessary to impeach Richard Nixon.

He began by pointing out that the strategy and direction of ACLU is and must continue changing because the "loss of the Supreme Court was the loss of the major instrument available to the ACLU." Today, he says we face a judiciary that is less and less willing to effect social change. "It is the juries that are opposing the government and it is they that we must rely on in the future. We have to move toward more jury trials."

In 1964, 90 percent of the ACLU's cases were *amicus curiae* and now 90 percent of them are direct representations of clients. He said that we can no longer be satisfied to simply file a piece of paper in which we argue a lofty, "pure" civil liberties point and then walk



CHARLES MORGAN, Jr., Director of National ACLU's Legislative Office, explains his views on impeachment at meeting in San Francisco.

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Oct 1973