

## Watergate

# Dirty Tricks and Demo Discord

### Washington

Senator George McGovern's former political director testified yesterday that Nixon campaign dirty tricks contributed to the Democratic party's 1972 wounds.

"What was created by the sabotage effort was an unparalleled atmosphere of rancor and discord within the Democratic party," Frank Mankiewicz told the Senate Watergate committee.

Republican witnesses have claimed that the anti-Democratic sabotage added little to President Nixon's landslide victory over McGovern.

### TOLD

But Mankiewicz said Senator Edmund S. Muskie's backers told him they blamed McGovern for anti-Muskie sabotage in the New Hampshire Democratic presidential primary.

He said false leaflets were distributed during the crucial California primary, leading McGovern and Senator Hubert H. Humphrey to suspect each other of a "vicious campaign of distortion and vilification." He said this may have led to Humphrey's attempt to claim some California delegates won by McGovern.

He said a fake, insulting telephone call to AFL-CIO President George Meany may have contributed to Meany's decision to withhold the giant labor organization's backing from McGovern.

### UNITY

Mankiewicz said the purpose of the sabotage seemed to be to "create within the Democratic party such a strong sense of resentment among the candidates and their followers as to make unity of the party impossible once a nominee was selected."

"At that, the effort seems to have been most successful" he said in a prepared opening statement.

During the panel's morning session, another former McGovern aide, Rick Stearns, accused the committee of a partisan, political attempt to smear the McGovern campaign.

The 29-year-old Harvard Law School freshman fenced with both Democrats and Republicans on the committee, which had prepared a subpoena to serve on him before his lawyers said he would come voluntarily. He complained he had been called less than 24 hours earlier.

Then he blamed unnamed



AP Wirephoto

**FRANK MANKIEWICZ**  
Former McGovern aide

members of the committee staff for "innuendoes and slanders" and of "unfounded attacks on Democratic integrity."

Without actually saying so, he obviously referred to reported attempts by Republican committee investigators to turn up evidence of Democratic dirty tricks.

When the hearings resumed after the luncheon break, only two senators, Joseph P. Montoya (Dem-N.M.) and Lowell P. Weicker (Rep-Conn.) attended the session.

After yesterday's session the committee recessed public hearing until October 30.

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