

Watergate Prosecutors' Final Recommendations

Washington

Here, in brief, are the recommendations made by the Watergate Special Prosecution Force in its final report:

CAMPAIGNWORKERS

The President should not nominate, and the Senate should refuse to confirm, any person nominated for attorney general, U.S. attorney or a high Justice Department position who served in a high-level position in the President's campaign.

Presidential nominees for heads of such agencies as the FBI, Internal Revenue Service and Secret Service should be highly qualified persons with independent reputations who have not played leading roles in the President's political campaigns.

NATIONAL SECURITY

The administration should establish a policy and disclose it publicly stating the precise power claimed by the administration in the name of "national security" to authorize warrantless foreign intelligence searches and seizures.

Congress should exercise effective policy monitoring of law enforcement and intelligence agencies to provide a restraint against the possible misuse of such agencies.

The Central Intelligence Agency, FBI and IRS should develop written policies stating purposes for which intelligence is to be gathered and the methods used to obtain the information. The policies should be submitted to a presidentially appointed domestic intelligence board, which would have the authority to make public recommendations and hear justifications for each policy.

SPECIAL PROSECUTOR

No permanent special prosecution force should be established.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Each department employee should have to record in memorandum form all oral communications with persons attempting political

persuasion or securing out-of-channel access to department personnel.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Government attorneys should be required to press for a judicial ruling on whether an attorney representing several clients poses a conflict of interest and, if a conflict is found, the attorney should be replaced.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Freedom of Information Act should be amended to make clear that information furnished on a confidential basis to federal law enforcement agencies is protected from disclosure.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Such agencies as the Secret Service, FBI and IRS should respond to presidential direction in broad policy areas, but be prohibited from becoming part of the President's political apparatus.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

The Justice Department should establish a policy to prosecute aggressively government contractors, unions and corporations that make illegal political contributions.

Election laws should be amended to permit officers and shareholders of corporations with government contracts to be prosecuted for making illegal political donations. The statute of limitations of illegal contributions should be extended from three years to five years.

Political committees should be required to report each financial transaction falling within a specified dollar amount and the chairman and treasurer of each political committee should be equally responsible under law for reporting contributions and expenditures.

Persons who lease property to the federal government should be prohibited from making political contributions.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

The Federal Election Commission's authority should be expanded to permit it to establish campaign conduct standards and investigate campaign tactics.