

# Gulf Aide Acquitted In Gift to Inouye

## Washington

A U.S. District judge yesterday found former Gulf Oil lobbyist Clude C. Wild Jr. not guilty of making an illegal \$5000 campaign contribution to Senator Daniel K. Inouye (Dem-Hawaii).

Judge Joseph C. Waddy said he acquitted Wild because he was not indicted before a three-year statute of limitations ran out.

Wild, 52, had admitted making the illegal corporate contribution but claimed it was made in January, 1973.

Henry Giugni, Inouye's administrative assistant, testified as a government witness that Wild

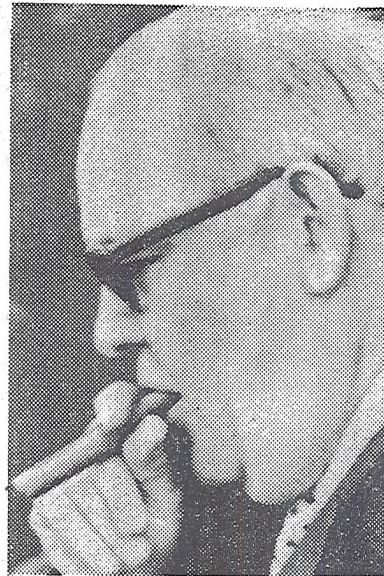
handed him the cash after March 15, 1973.

Wild was indicted on March 12, 1976.

"The court finds the evidence of the defendant is worthy of greater credence than that of Giugni," the judge said. He said the government "has failed to establish beyond a reasonable doubt that the contribution was made within three years of the (indictment) date."

"The court finds the defendant not guilty," Waddy added.

A cheer of triumph rose from the defense table where Wild,



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**CLAUDE C. WILD JR.**  
**The date was crucial**

former Gulf vice president in charge of government affairs, embraced his attorney, William Hurdley, his wife, Nadine, daughter, Susan, 24, and son, Claude III, a Denver lawyer.

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