

Bare Rockefeller Watergate of Industry

June 11 (IPS) — The Watergate Prosecutor's mandate to investigate "the conduct of the 1972 elections" is a license declaring open season on the conservative business layers. The Watergate Prosecutor is presently investigating at least 20 corporations for so-called illegal campaign contributions.

Among those targeted are: American Airlines, Carnation, Goodyear Tire and Rubber, Greyhound, Time Oil Co., Ashland Oil, Braniff Airways, Gulf Oil, and Phillips Petroleum.

The aim of this terror operation is to hamstring potential opposition to Rockefeller policies of economic triage and holocaust.

In a bid to institutionalize the "dirty tricks" operation, Charles Percy, the well-known liberal Republican-on-the-make and a member of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Multinational Corporations, explicitly demanded an extra-legal lynch law approach involving public scandal as the control on corporate "greed" in a statement released to the press on Monday.

At the same time, spokesmen for Gulf Oil Company, one of the main targets of the Watergate prosecutor's office—Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) one-two punch, told IPS

that there was "no question" that the effect of the watertgating had been to muzzle that company's normal participation in public discussion of economic policy.

"I'm convinced that creative minds in the name of greed, can concoct schemes faster than we could legislate against them," Percy declared. "Therefore, I would rather rely on public exposure, a free press and public indignation to control these excesses than on a mass of regulations and government controls..." he said.

Senator Percy is not parading his "moral indignation" for nothing. IPS learned this week from sources in New York that one of Ralph Nader's many front groups, always eager to be of service to the corridors of power, is preparing a report for Rockefeller agent Attorney General Edward Levi advising him to deputize a permanent "White Collar Strike Force." A spokesman for the Corporate Accountability Research Group is reported to have bemoaned his own organization's lack of subpoena powers.

Crime in the Suites

In a related development, Tuesday's Washington Post features a front-page item heralding a Supreme Court decision reaffirming the criminal liability of corporate executives

who "fail to prevent or correct conditions that bring their companies afoul of the law." In itself the case is insignificant, but the Post gives it away: "It came at a time when...insufficient attention is being paid to 'crime in the suites'," a clear reference to the phoney Rockefeller-directed corporate terror drive.

A spokesman for Gulf Oil Company, whose non-Rockefeller management have been tied up in the Watertgating scandal for two years, acknowledged that the idea of being targeted "has credibility to it." Another Gulf source, contacted this week confirmed that the Gulf "scandal" had resulted from what was "definitely" an SEC "leak." Gulf had submitted a report to the SEC as ordered, in full legal confidentiality. Gulf is one of the last bastions of the Mellon family's interests, a long-time factional opponent of the Rockefellers.

"Of course, we have great concerns about international economic policy," the Gulf representative told IPS, "but you are right...we haven't the time, nor the inclination for that matter, under these circumstances to raise our voice on those issues." That is precisely the nature of the controlled environment the watertgating is designed to create.