

# U.S. may never know all about Watergate raid

By PHILIP N. WEST  
Canadian University Press

SAN FRANCISCO - The American people may never know the complete story of the politically-explosive Watergate incident.

Seven men have now been indicted in connection with the raid on the Democratic Party headquarters in June, but investigation of their other activities has been hampered by the political nature of the offences.

The men - two of them officially connected to the Nixon administration - may be operatives for a conspiracy by elements in the White House, the Central Intelligence Agency, and a Cuban exile group based in Miami.

The Watergate raid was reported as only one of a series of politically inspired enterprises conducted by the group.

Open to speculation is whether those other activities included the planning of a political coup, as outlined in statements last year by Los Angeles agent provateur Louis Tackwood.

At least one "conspiracy investigator" Mae Brussel, believes in this possibility and has openly stated that conviction.

Four of the men were planning demonstrations at the Republican party convention in August, similar to those described by Tackwood which, if they were successful, would have resulted in a military regime assuming power in the United States.

The possibilities and consequences of such an operation can only be gauged from a study of related events which preceded the Watergate incident.

\*\*\*\*\*

For some years the United States government has followed a policy of inciting dissent against itself.

Many of the charges levelled by the government against militant radical organizations are the result of incidents planned and executed by an agency of the government itself.

The government's theory," says New York Civil Liberties Union Counsel Eve Cary, "is that if an individual or individuals want to commit a crime, they are as guilty as if they had committed it."

"If the government agent does not provide them with the means of acting on their desires, they will find some other means of carrying them out."

"Therefore, the agent is justified in provoking them into action. Provocation is a means of catching enemies before they become dangerous."

One of the latest examples is the Berrigan case, in which the late FBI director J. Edgar Hoover revealed "a plot to kidnap a high government official", Henry Kissinger. The Harrisburg Seven were acquitted on the charge but two of the defendants, Father Philip Berrigan and Sister Elizabeth McAlister, were convicted on seven counts of smuggling and attempting to smuggle letters out of a federal prison.

The defense charged that the smuggling of letters was a minor offense which usually merits no penalty at all, and that the "real offender" in the case was Boyd F. Douglas Jr., The FBI agent informer who actually car-

ried the letters in and out of Lewisburg prison. The charge was eventually dismissed on the application of the prosecution but not until the two had had been sentenced to actual jail terms.

For this court case, similar to many others, the public paid between \$1 and \$3 million in governmental public relations. Without any judicial decision, the long trial associated the defendants with violence, thereby justifying increased repression, says Eve Cary.

Over the past year, four agent provocateurs have admitted they were hired by the FBI or local police to help plan and execute terrorist acts.

A former student of the University of Alabama, Charles Grimm, alleges it was an FBI agent who instructed him to burn buildings and throw fire bombs. David Sannes of Seattle, says an FBI agent issued him instructions to destroy the Evergreen Point floating bridge with five radical accomplices, and to "ensure that the individual who set the bomb died in the booby-trapped explosion". Jeff Desmond claims an

Twelve months earlier it was reported that the Rand Corporation "Think tank" had been commissioned to conduct a "feasibility study" on cancellation of the 1972 elections.

The story was first uncovered by a Washington correspondent for the Newhouse newspaper chain, William Howard, who claimed he learned this from the wife of a Rand corporation executive.

Reason given by presidential advisors for the study to Rand was increasing concern "about the country's internal security and the chances of radical elements disrupting government operations, including national elections".

The Rand study would "envision a situation where rebellious factions using force or bomb threats would make it unsafe to conduct an election, and to provide the president with a plan of action.

The Wall Street Journal also recorded the report, and Los Angeles Free Press reporters were told by Rand employees that they "had done a good

he commenced political work with Los Angeles Police Department Criminal Conspiracy Section (CCS). Tackwood's description of his infiltration and activities within the Black Panther Party has been described as "consistent, detailed and concrete."

"I am not politically right or wrong," said Tackwood. "It's not a thing I feel I am obligated right or wrong. It is a time when political rights are left (should demand) that the department of Los Angeles stop using provocateurs. I feel once this atmosphere is cleared up that the Black and the Chicano can clean up their own houses."

The recording to Tackwood's presence by the Citizens Research and Investigating Committee took almost two months, and during that time, Tackwood continued to work for CCS under a cover story given to his superiors that he was spying on the organization.

According to journalist Mike Blake, who originally discovered the story: "Boundless information on activities of the police lay firm in the informer's brain, information on most radical activists would have been years of their lives to know."

"It was not to be known with a price however, and that price turned out to be the agony of working and through a man like Louis Tackwood."

Tackwood's most frightening information was his conviction that he was slated for membership in a special team-Squad 19-assigned to create a national emergency at the Republican convention in San Diego.

Tackwood said the plan entailed planting and detonation of bombs during the convention in conjunction with an agent-provoked riot outside, to create a state of national emergency so that arrests and detention of political activists could take place.

The explosions would be designed "to kill a number of delegates, create a nation-wide hysteria that would provide President Nixon with the popular support necessary to declare a state of national emergency."

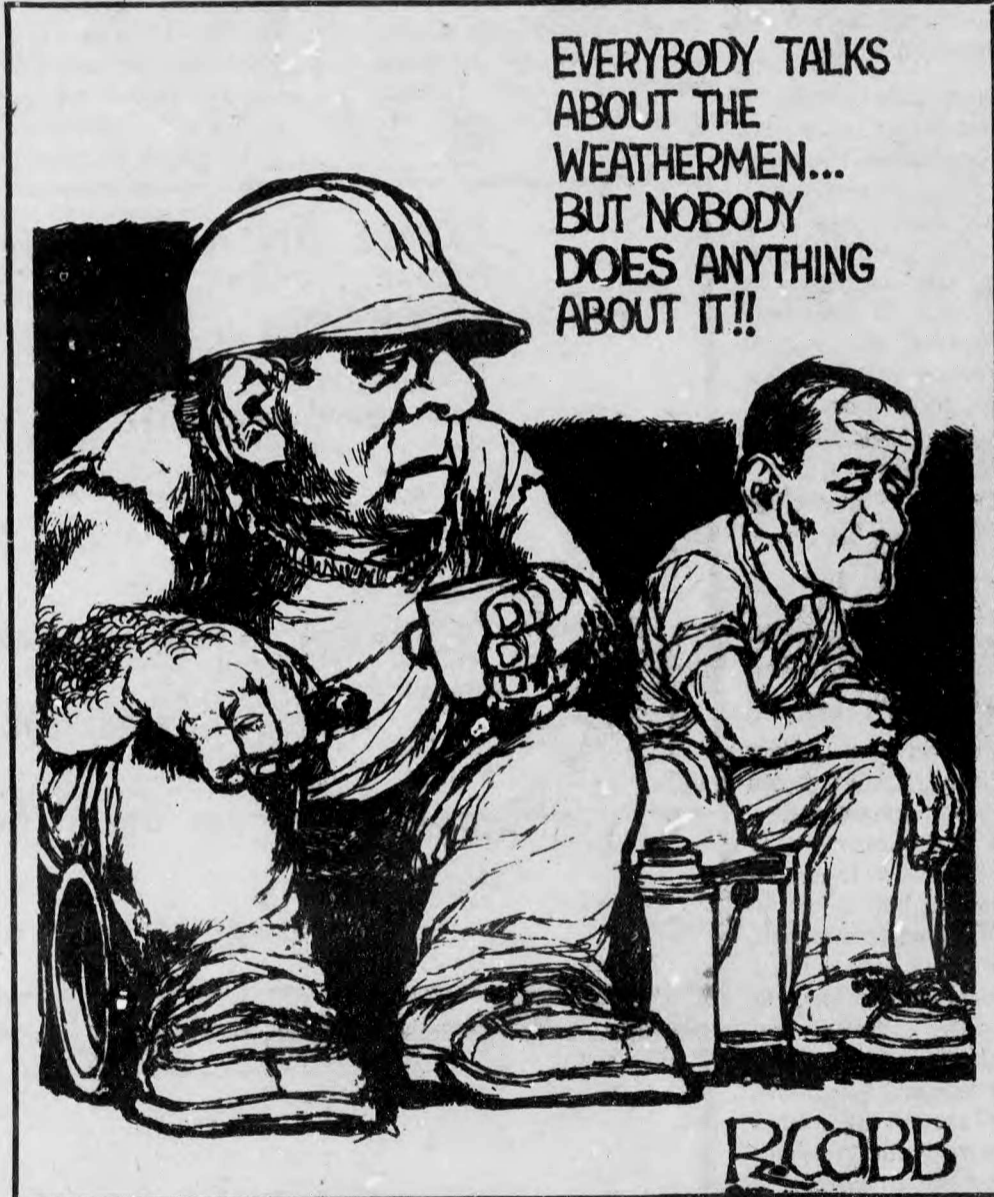
"Richard Nixon would order the arrest of all militants and left-wing revolutionaries and cancel the 1972 elections. He could invoke special emergency powers leading to the prevention of political activists. Martial law would be achieved."

The Washington Post published the story on its front page, and it appeared in the New York Times and Los Angeles Times. But otherwise it appeared that a news blackout applied.

According to the Chicago Journalist Review of July this year: "The story was transmitted around the community and street ghettos of the Woodstock Nation via Alternate Press Service and College Press Service, which acted true to the tenets of good journalism that had the more established services."

When CPS Washington correspondent Carl Nelson contacted the FBI and asked for any statement on the Tackwood allegations, officials claimed no knowledge of the affair and asked Nelson if he was "drunk or tripping."

The FBI reaction is strange when one considers that Nelson is son of the fourth highest official in the FBI. The Bureau issued an unusual non-committal statement less than one hour later.



FBI agent supplied him with money to purchase fuses and blasting caps to demonstrate to a group of radicals how to manufacture bombs.

The fourth man was Louis Tackwood - a Los Angeles police department agent who announced just less than a year ago that police planned to provoke violence at this year's political conventions which were originally scheduled for San Diego.

According to Tackwood, the plan was initiated six months before when a group of "high-ranking police officers came up with a plan that would be a final solution to all militant problems in America".

\*\*\*\*\*

and right thing in publishing the story."

\*\*\*\*\*

Louis Tackwood's history is as interesting as his allegations, suggesting an unreal life adaption of the television series "To Catch a Thief".

In 1962 he was arrested as a member of a car theft ring, and offered a nominal sentence if he agreed to work with police to break a larger car theft ring. Tackwood's police record contains several entries for which the penalties are regarded as inordinately light.

Notations accompanying the police record describe Tackwood as a valuable informer, and it was in this role that