

MAGAZINE WEEK

By Sherwood Ross

WASHINGTON, D.C.---Couple of years back, black spokesmen here joined Sen. George McGovern (D.-S.D.) in an attack on the infamous "No-Knock" law jammed through Congress. The blacks were outraged because the crown colony was picked to become the first city to enjoy the benefits of "No-Knock". The idea was that the police could do their job better if they broke into places first and identified themselves afterwards. The nation didn't listen even though some militant blacks shouted back they would blow the heads off anybody dumb enough to break into their homes without a warrant.

Now that the Watergate scandal has burst upon the nation, the entire world is getting a picture

of the "no-knock" mentality of the Nixon Administration that black leaders here warned about. We are seeing thugs beat people up on the steps of the Capitol---and finding out that the thugs were hired by pals of former Nixon Atty.-Gen. John Mitchell and the Committee to Re-Elect the President.

We are getting a picture not only of Daniel Ellsberg attacked on the steps of the Capitol, a violation of his constitutional rights, but a break-in at his psychiatrist's office in Los Angeles, and the rifling of his files, and there has also been a break-in at NAACP offices in New York. Not any prettier is the vengeful prosecution of Ellsberg by the government because Ellsberg dared to tell the truth about Vietnam to the American people.

But that was not to be all. The Nixon Administration not only violated the privacy of dissenters like Ellsberg but it also violated the privacy of its own top officials, tapping their telephones, reading their letters. Not content with doing in its friends, it went to work on Sen. Muskie, fabricating lies about him in Florida and Maine, and tapping the phones of the Democrats at their Watergate headquarters. To make matters worse the purveyors of no-knock attempted to cover the entire scandal up.

Next, the President comes before the public on TV playing the "baby act," pleading that he didn't know what was going on. His personal lawyer, his No. 1 campaign manager, his two top White House Aides and a dozen others either knew about Watergate or the coverup, yet this chief-of-all knew nothing! Well, the choice is between being a criminal or a dupe of John Mitchell, and the President is hoping to get by, claiming the latter.

Emboldened by their start with no-knock in Washington, D.C., the Administration apparently felt it could begin trampling on other constitutional traditions. In Illinois, a family is outraged in their home by no-knocking Federal agents looking for criminals. The agents left without apologizing but the family was held at gunpoint, not by criminals, but by U.S. Government officials!

In California, a suspected drug-maker is surprised in his remote cottage by a posse of police using a borrowed army helicopter and shot dead as he runs, in terror. The man is still to be proved guilty, by the way, but that doesn't count when the No-Knockers are riding the way they did at My Lai. Both the Illinois family and the California youth were white, so the stories are making headlines around the nation. When Sen. McGovern attacked no-knock it made the front page of the second section of the Washington STAR.

Now governors and congressmen are calling upon President Nixon to resign. So many of his cabinet members and aides, both in government and out, are involved in Watergate, that TIME magazine runs their pictures like baseball scorecard and the NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS takes up nearly a half issue to list the shenanigans of the Nixon clique in small type.

Now an Administration that has been paralyzed by the crimes around Watergate is powerless to stop the erosion of the dollar, powerless to stop the vested interests which think, and maybe rightly, that all you have to do is kick in to the Nixon war chest and you get higher prices for your milk products or whatever else you happen to be selling. Government by pay-off for people with money.

Now that the Watergate scandal is hitting the general public, the cries for reform of the election laws, and for impeachment, for resignation, are mounting daily. But the public was warned, warned by the black leaders in D.C. years ago in their opposition to the no-knock mentality of the Administration. (Curious, isn't it, how political scientists persist in saying that black voters aren't sophisticated and the black leaders can't get it all together?) Now that white American is coming around to the view of D.C. leaders and D.C. voters, the public might find itself recognizing that there is no difference between the tactics used by the Russian secret police and those used by Atty.-Gen. John Mitchell's crew of Watergate thugs. The only blessed difference, still, is that in Russia the government can get away with it but in the U.S. a crime may still be a crime and guilty may still be punished.

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Each applicant must meet the following minimum qualifications:

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4. Aptitude test.

Each applicant who meets all minimum requirements will be interviewed by the Committee to determine his qualifications beyond minimum requirements. The interview will consider:

1. General education background.
2. Aptitude test results.
3. Physical ability as related to the trade.
4. Interest.
5. Attitude.
6. Personal traits.

The Apprenticeship Standards provide that applications will be received without regard to race, color, religion or national origin.

Applications will be received at 1111 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Suite 215, Las Vegas, Nevada, on Monday through Friday during the period stated above from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

PAINTERS JOINT APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE
1111 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Suite 215
Phone 384-6655

Notice Of Apprenticeship Opportunity

Applications will be accepted for the PAINTERS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM from June 25, 1972 through July 6, 1972. There will be ten (10) openings.

This is a three year course in which you learn to become a professional painter. Instruction includes preparation, hanging vinyl, wallpaper, modern coatings and related activities.

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1. Age 16 to 25.
2. Education-High School or GED equivalent.
3. Citizenship-American or first papers.
4. Aptitude test including color perception.

Each applicant who meets all minimum requirements will be interviewed by the Committee to determine his qualifications beyond minimum requirements. The interview will consider:

1. General education background.
2. Aptitude test results.
3. Physical ability as related to the trade.
4. Interest.
5. Attitude.
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GAS RATE, from page 1

lower than they were in 1958 -- 15 years ago. Leonard Snaider, attorney for Southwest Gas Corporation told the PSC that the company's need for an increase in rates is "urgent and critical."

"Earnings from operations dropped from \$1.30 per share in fiscal 1971 to \$1.10 in 1972, Snaider stated. "The company's return on equity is only 6.87 percent -- about half of the maximum 12.92 percent declared by the PSC in December 1971 as a suitable return for Southwest Gas.

The requested increase to residential and commercial customers only covers the amount necessary to offset price increases in the cost of natural gas from the company's out-of-state supplier, according to McCrea.

"These price increases have been so severe that since the last increase on April 1 we actually have been selling some blocks of gas to industrial customers at rates less than a penny above the cost to us," McCrea said.

In Southwest Gas Corporation's Northern Nevada service area, where gas consumption is higher due to colder weather, the average domestic bill would be raised 35 cents a month, or about two percent.

The utility is asking for approximately \$2-1/4 million in added revenues for Nevada. It is requesting an across-the-board increase to offset price increases from its supplier, El Paso Natural Gas, amounting to \$577,938.

The company is seeking to obtain the balance of the increases, \$1,678,760, from industrial, steam electric generation customers and wholesale customers, plus new charges for turn-ons and certain after-hours service work.

The Public Service Commission announced that customers of Southwest Gas can express their views before the Commission on June 15-16. The hearing moves to Carson City June 19 to hear evidence and possible protests from Northern Nevada customers.

Southwest Gas serves approximately 46,000 customers in Southern Nevada and 16,000 customers in its Northern Nevada service area.