Mandel indictment crowns 1975 corruption probe

There is every indication that criminally, in 1975, Maryland made political history.

The year ends with most political observers awed that the rampant corruption which brought Spiro Agnew to the doorstep of the Penitentiary in 1974 is reaching just as seriously for Marvin Mandel.

On Monday, Nov. 24, 1975 the office of U.S. Attorney Jervis presented a 38-page indictment by the Special Grand Jury naming Gov. Mandel and five prominent Maryland business figures in 24 counts of mail fraud and racketeering.

It was the first time in Maryland history that a governor was named in criminal indictments. The unprecedented move brought to an end the year and half of insuendo and unsupported charges surrounding the 20-member grand jury's corruption probe of Mandel and his friends.

Named in the indictment with Mandel were W. Dale Hess, a former Maryland House leader; Harry W. Rodgers, William A. Rodgers, both executives of Tidewater Insurance Co.; Irvin Kovens, financier and Ernest N. Cory Jr., a Maryland lawyer.

According to U.S. Attorney, "the mail fraud counts allege that Gov. Mandel and his business associates devised a scheme under which Hess, the Rodgers brothers, Kovens and Cory secretly bought Marlboro Race Track in December, 1971."

During the long period of investigation "press leaks" and news statements attributed to "political sources" were condemned and loudly denied by Mandel who up to the moment of indictment claimed, "there is absolutely nothing for them (the Grand Jury) to indict me for."

Protests not withstanding, he was indicted and the indictments sounded as familiar as those which crushed the careers of N. Dale Anderson, former county executive of Baltimore County; Joseph W. Alton Jr., former Anne Arundel County executive; William E. Fornoff, county administrator; Jerome B. Wolff, former State Roads Commission chairman; former state senator, James Pine; Anne Arundel County treasurer, John W. Stefey and James F. Fanseen, former Baltimore Police magistrate.

The list is almost endless. Others include:

— Lester Matz: founding partner of Matz, Childs Engineers said to have paid Agnew $37,500 in kick-backs, including one envelope full of cash to Agnew in his White House office. Sold his engineering firm and is no longer involved in the business. Fully cooperative with prosecutors and has faced no prosecution to date.

— John C. Childs Sr.: co-founder of Matz, Childs testified against both Agnew and Anderson.

— Allen I. Green: according to prosecutors paid Agnew at least $20,000 in cash. Cooperated in the investigation of Agnew and testified against Anderson. Served four months of a 12-month term at the Federal Prison at Allenwood, Pa.

— I. H. (Bud) Hamerman: investment banker and sponsor of the "Spiro in 76" Movement; provided prosecutors key evidence against Agnew, pleaded guilty to a negotiated charge and was given a stiff 18-month sentence which has since been overturned by an Appeals Court because of a misunderstanding in the plea bargained agreement.

— Paul, John and Robert Gaudreau: brothers and engineers. Paul testified he gave $10,000 to Fornoff for Anderson.

— John Hocheder: engineer who at first refused to cooperate with prosecutors, but later pleaded guilty to a tax count and was sentenced to two months in jail.

— Joel Kline: Montgomery County (Boy Wonder) of Maryland finance. Now bankrupt, served six months for obstructing a stock manipulation investigation and has been cooperating with prosecutors on several other investigations. Testified he "laundered" kickback money -- back money for Anderson.

— J. Walter Jones, banker and long time friend of Agnew. Indicted on charges of illegally obtaining a $10,000 corporate campaign contribution from the Singer Company with the understanding that Singer would receive favorable consideration on federal contracts. Still awaiting trial. The Singer Company has since pleaded guilty to making an illegal contribution to the 1972 Nixon-Agnew campaign and was fined $2,500.

— Eugene Y. Hsi: engineer who admitted in open court that he lied to the Grand Jury to protect Agnew; pleaded guilty, sentenced to six months.

— Robert A. Whiteford: engineer who cooperated with prosecutors in the original Agnew investigation. He has not been prosecuted.

— Harry W. Brenner Jr., and Hugh W. Fay Jr., former partners of Hsi who both pleaded guilty of lying to the Grand Jury.

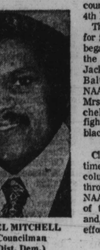
The corruption scandals evolved around the greed for millions of dollars and touched prominent persons occupying positions from county lawyers to the Vice President of the United States.

The trial date for the Mandel case is set for May 3, 1976.

MARVIN MANDEL
Gov. of Maryland

Good News, WRAP UP 1975

WENDELL COOPER finally made it on Oct. 22, 1975 when he was pinned by his mother with the badge of the Eagle Scouts. A member of Troop No. 521 for the past eight years, Wendell's big moment came at Memorial United Methodist Church. The honor is the highest issued by the Boy Scouts of America.



LT. COL. JAMES A. WATKINS

The closing year, 1975, was a very bad year for the gripping racist fingers of political power brokers who resent black people of substance who worked their way into possessions of authority and daring to have the guts to use that authority.

The two most outstanding cases in point are those involving Police Col. James H. Watkins and Elbert L. A. Guillory, executive director of the Maryland Commission on Human Relations.

In the first instance Col. Watkins, one of the city's most decorated officers, was the target of a well televised campaign designed to mark him as one of the underworld's most ayid supporters.

In what it called an "investigative series," a local TV news station broadcast several alleged tales of Col. Watkins which linked him with protection of criminal elements in drugs and illegal gambling.

The 1975 attack was on the character of this 25-year veteran police officer whose outstanding police work earned him the Silver Star among dozens of other commendations. In fact, he has been the target of such attacks on an almost yearly basis since his career began to skyrocket in the late 1960s.

This latest attack on Col. Watkins began when an ex-police officer, turned reporter, disclosed to WJZ-TV what he termed the results of a three-month investigation into allegations of police drug involvement that "high ranking police" have sold drug dealers narcotics seized in arrests and have protected underworld drug figures from arrest.

Basing the charges on what it termed "reliable sources" in the State's Attorney's office, the television station's news term charged that Col. Watkins was involved in drug trade as early as 1970 and had "allowed it to flourish."

The station reported that the police department's Inspectional Services Division which investigates reports of police misconduct had turned police corruption information over to the department's Internal Intelligence Division for follow-up, but that nothing ever came of the allegations.

According to the widely viewed newscast Col. Watkins, at the time a district commander with the rank of major, "would confiscate drugs from dealers and then get money for them."

Further, the station alleged that since 1970 a special drug strike force headed by Watkins has had 51 per cent of its convictions dropped, compared to 16 per cent of other police agencies.

Following a great deal of hullabaloo about the unusual broadcast the television station quietly dropped the series. Much of their reason for doing so came from Police Commissioner Donald Pomerleau's outspoken support of Col. Watkins.

Also, there was the curiously overlooked fact that those allegations were five years old, thoroughly vestigated, capped with lie detector tests and the veteran officer cleared of all charges.

The hotly contested series resulted in what may become the biggest court battle of 1976 in several seven figure suit cases.

Another ruthless move against a black man, dedicated to making his position a yiable and beneficial one to minorities in Maryland is that directed at Elbert L. A. Guillory.

Widely recognized as the most aggressive executive directive the Maryland Commission on Human Relations has ever had, Guillory has made some powerful enemies within the WASP controlled Chamber of Commerce.

ELBERT L. A. GUILLORY

Guillory's dynamic administrative talents have resulted in the commission's having logged its largest number of discrimination cases and their resolution in history.

During his three-year tenure, Guillory has won almost $50,000 in 73 cases of court tried violations of the anti-discrimination law. In addition his team of investigators has successfully resolved over 2,500 cases involving violations of the law in employment, housing and public accommodations.

However, such rigorous enforcement of the law has caused some conflict among those who have had to pay so heavily for their transgressions and it has warned those who have not yet paid that with Guillory doing such a good job it's only a matter of time before he reaches their front offices.

The result is a loud complaint that the commission is practicing "Reverse Discrimination" by finding more businesses in violation than in concurrence with the law.

The Chamber of Commerce has, in recent months, organized a campaign to defang Guillory and give the power of subpoena to Philip J. Tierney, general counsel to the commission.

The only problem it seems is that Tierney has moved only nine of the 105 cases sent to his office for public hearing during the entire year.

If the legislature, as it seems bent on doing, does give him sole power of subpoena, the offending industries need not worry about having to face a court hearing for violating the law: Tierney's track record as a bottleneck would guarantee them immunity to the law.

Guillory has valiantly faced down the so called "legislation to strengthen the commission" by revealing that with the power to bring the offending industry to court his agency will be reduced "to paper shufflers."

His firm opposition to Tierney has brought a scorching reprimand from the 11-man commission which runs the department.

The coming year will bring to bear some formidable forces whose activities will resolve the question as to whether minorities in Maryland will have the protection of the law or be at the mercy of insensitive self-serving industry.

Elbert L. A. Guillory and the case against him and his agency will be the office on which equal opportunity and justice in housing, employment and public accommodations will stand or collapse in 1976.

First in the nation

In their never ending struggle against injustice and bigotry directed towards black people, the Mitchells of Baltimore have become America's first political family to have a member occupying political office on every level of government contemporarily.

This unique family presently fields Parren J. Mitchell, Maryland's first black congressman; his brother, Clarence Mitchell Jr., a member of the U.S. delegation to the UN; Clarence Mitchell III Balto., 4th District State Senator; and Michael Mitchell, city councilman from Baltimore's 4th Democratic District.

The long standing struggle for freedom by the Mitchells began over 30 years ago when the late Mrs. Lillie Mae Jackson was president of the Baltimore chapter of the NAACP and her daughter, Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, stirred freedom-fighter-fires in the hearts of black West Baltimoreans.

Clarence Mitchell Jr., one-time AFRO reporter and columnist, moved swiftly through the ranks of the NAACP to be appointed head of the Washington bureau, and, because of his untiring efforts on Capitol Hill on behalf of civil rights legislation became respected as "The 101st U.S. Senator."

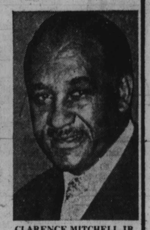
His brother Parren was the first black student of law at the University of Maryland campus at College Park. He headed the Md. Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations; the Baltimore Community Action Agency. P.J., as he is known among friends, won the congressional seat from an opponent who had held it 21 years.

Clarence Mitchell II was the youngest man ever elected to the Maryland State Legislature. He has served the state since 1962. He was 22 when elected. During his long career, Clarence has not gone without controversy having exposed a $500 bribe attempt in the 1963 "One Arm Bandit" controversy which ended with the Legislature banning gambling in several Maryland counties.

The youngest entry: Michael is a well known Baltimore attorney who garnered a majority of votes from the city's 4th District ahead of several prominent West Baltimore figures.

It was his very first venture into the political arena as a candidate.

PARREN J. MITCHELL
U.S. Congressman
(5th Dist. Dem.)
Maryland



CLARENCE MITCHELL JR.
U.S. Delegate to the United Nations

MICHAEL MITCHELL
City Councilman
(4th Dist. Dem.)
Baltimore

CLARENCE MITCHELL II
Maryland State Senator
(4th Dist. Dem.)

Bad News

WHERE DID our wall go? That was the big question in the minds of Mrs. Donna Hollan, 26 and Michael Williams, 14, of 1804 N. Caroline St. early last year when their landlord decided to have the front of the house re-done. Workmen were unable to complete the job before the weekend and the family was exposed to freezing winds for the two day period. Workmen did return on Monday to begin replacing the wall of the house.

THE MOST TRAGIC house fire in the city's memory occurred in the early hours of Jan. 18, 1975 when flames swept through the two story home of Mrs. Goines who was shopping for bargains at nearby slaughter house. The fire claimed the lives of five of her children and two grandchildren. Funeral services for the Goines children were held at Gillis Memorial CC Church where the eight closed caskets were on view. Seen in this photo the victims were (L to R) Cleveland, 9; Clifford, 15; Kenneth, 13; Julia, 14; Paul, 7; Judy, 19; Erica, 1 and Roland, 23.

End of rainbow for Colts may not be pot of gold

By Sam Lacy

For the last nine weeks, the Colts and their followers have been pursuing the proverbial end of the rainbow in quest of the American Football Conference title and, with it, a shot at the Super Bowl.

But, it is feared at this desk that their goal will be just as elusive as rainbow's end in reality. And, even if they locate it, it seems unlikely that they will find something less than the mythical pot of gold — or its equivalent.

Tomorrow's (Saturday) playoff game with the Steelers at Pittsburgh will reduce the "gold" to rubble. I'm afraid. Naturally, I hope I'm wrong, but I have the feeling I won't be.

* * *

The Steelers are nothing like the teams the Colts have beaten in their nine-game glory road to the Eastern Division crown.

Nor are they the same team that looked so horrendous in losing to the Los Angeles Rams last Saturday night. Aside from the fact that it was a meaningless game, in which both teams were merely going through the motions, that was one for which coach Chuck Noll had no plans to use his key players.

Quarterback Terry Bradshaw, in fact, practiced only once with the team during the previous week.

* * *

Baltimoreans are familiar with the Horatio Alger story of the Colts, and not to be underestimated is the fact that they won nine games at a time when a loss in any one of them would have meant extinction.

But Pittsburgh fans also experienced a tremendous glow from the performance of their team.

The Steelers had their best season of all time. They won more games than they ever did before, scored more points than ever and gave up the least in the AFC and the fewest in their history.

Their key players on offense all had the best seasons of their careers. Their defense, playing without defensive tackle Joe Greene for most of the second half, of the season, played superb football after the team suffered an early season loss to Buffalo.

Fourth year man Steve Furness stepped in for Greene and the All Pro's absence was barely noticed.

The defensive line nearly matched its great post-season performances of last year and received the same support from the linebackers and defensive backs that carried the team to the title. Only two opponents scored more than two touchdowns against them.

It could be a half-raising, head-knocking battle, but I'm afraid the Colts will be brought back down from the stratosphere at Three Rivers, Saturday.

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Were You There? Football on TV

IS THIS YOU whose picture was snapped by AFRO photographer Ben Phillips at a recent Baltimore-related sports event? If so, bring the clipping to Mrs. Gertrude Steele, 3rd floor, AFRO Building, BEFORE NOON Tuesday and collect $5 for being in the right place at the right time. You are today's "Were You There" winner, the running money game played in each local AFRO edition.

The following chart is offered for use by AFRO readers who may wish to identify players in whom they may have special interest in NFL games of the upcoming weekend.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Baltimore At Pittsburgh

Colts			Steelers		
20	Jackie Wallace	S	24	J. T. Thomas	CB
26	Lydell Mitchell	RB	27	Glen Edwards	S
27	Howard Stevens	KR	32	Franco Harris	RB
29	Marshall Johnson	RB	33	John Fuqua	RB
30	Doug Nettles	CB	43	Frank Lewis	WR
31	Nelson Munsey	CB	44	Mike Collier	RB
35	Glenn Doughty	WR	45	Jim Allen	CB
38	Bill Olds	RB	46	Reggie Harrison	RB
42	Lloyd Mumford	CB	47	Mel Blount	CB
63	Roosevelt Leaks	RB	57	Sam Davis	G
72	Fred Cook	DE	63	Ernie Holmes	DT
85	Jimmie Kennedy	TE	68	L. C. Greenwood	DE
86	Freddie Scott	WR	75	Joe Greene	DT
87	Raymond Chester	TE	78	Dwight White	DE
			82	John Stallworth	WR
			86	Reggie Garrett	WR
			88	Lynn Swann	WR

St. Louis At Los Angeles

Cardinals			Rams		
21	Terry Metcalf	RB	12	James Harris	QB
28	Dwayne Crump	CB	24	Willie McGee	WR
29	Eddie Moss	RB	28	Harold Jackson	WR
36	Ken Reaves	S	30	Laurence McCutcheon	RB
41	Clarence Duren	S			
45	Jim Tolbert	CB	32	Cullen Bryant	RB
59	Pete Barnes	LB	36	Ken Geddes	LB
60	Roger Finnie	G	39	Rod Phillips	RB
68	Henry Allison	G	41	Eddie McMillan	CB
69	Greg Kindle	T	44	Al Clark	CB
74	Council Rudolph	DE	56	Isiah Robertson	LB
79	Bobby Bell	DE	73	Charlie Cowan	T
82	Earl Thomas	WR	75	John Williams	G
84	Ike Harris	WR	76	Cody Jones	T
85	Mel Gray	WR	77	Doug France	T
88	J. V. Cain	TE	81	Ron Jessie	WR
			83	Terry Nelson	TE
			90	Larry Brooks	DT

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Dallas At Minnesota

Cowboys			Vikings		
20	Mel Renfro	CB	27	Autrey Beamon	S
21	Doug Dennison	RB	33	Brent McClanahan	RB
26	Preston Pearson	KR	35	Robert Miller	RB
30	Charlie Young	RB	42	John Gilliam	WR
31	Benny Barnes	CB	43	Nate Wright	CB
44	Robert Newhouse	RB	44	Chuck Foreman	RB
46	Mark Washington	CB	54	Fred McNeil	LB
56	Tom Henderson	LB	59	Matt Blair	LB
68	Herb Scott	G	65	Steve Lawson	G
70	Rayfield Wright	T	68	Charlie Goodrum	T
72	Ed Jones	DE	70	Jim Marshall	DE
75	Jethro Pugh	DT	80	Sam McCullum	WR
77	Bill Gregory	DT	81	Carl Eller	DE
79	Harvey Martin	DE	82	Jim Lash	WR
81	Percy Howard	WR	84	Steve Craig	TE
84	Jean Fugett	WR	88	Alan Page	DT
87	Ron Howard	TE			
88	Drew Pearson	WR			
89	Billy DuPree	TE			

Cincinnati At Oakland

Bengals			Raiders		
13	Ken Riley	CB	21	Cliff Branch	WR
18	Charlie Joiner	WR	24	Willie Brown	CB
19	Essex Johnson	RB	26	Alonzo Thomas	CB
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	29	Clarence Davis	RB
23	Bernard Jackson	S	32	Jack Tatum	S
24	Marvin Cobb	S	33	Louis Carter	RB
27	Ricky Davis	S	34	Harold Hart	RB
30	Harold Henson	RB	35	Jess Phillips	RB
42	Boobie Clark	RB	43	George Atkinson	S
43	Ed Williams	RB	45	Neal Colzie	S
58	Al Beauchamp	LB	47	Charlie Phillips	CB-S
60	Ron Pritchard	LB	60	Otis Sistrunk	DT
65	Maulty Moore	DT	63	Gene Upshaw	G
71	Rufus Mayes	T	70	Henry Lawrence	T
76	Vernon Holland	T	78	Art Shell	T
78	Bob Brown	DT	87	Horace Jones	DE
80	Ken Johnson	DE	86	Gerald Irons	LB
83	Sherman White	DE			
85	Isaac Curtis	WR			
86	John McDaniel	WR			

4-team Kiwanis tourney spots Morgan, Howard

The Kiwanis Club will hold its first annual Christmas Classic basketball tournament Monday and Tuesday at the Civic Center.

Proceeds from the affair will be turned over to the Maryland Arthritis Foundation for its use in researching means of preventing and controlling the disease.

The 4-team event will be highlighted by the appearance of Morgan State, Howard University Randolph-Macon College and Drexel University of Philadelphia.

Two games will be played on each of the two evenings.

Monday's program calls for Howard to meet Drexel in the 7 p.m. opener, with a teenaged wheelchair game between teams from Washington and Baltimore scheduled at halftime.

The 9:30 contest will pit Morgan and Drexel for the right to play the first-game winner in Tuesday night's championship matchup.

Losers of the two first-round games will clash for consolation honors prior to the title event, which also will be preceded by a special attraction.

In that, radio and TV personalities from D.C. and Baltimore will vie in a 20-minute game.

Tournament headquarters is at the Ramada Inn Beltway where a luncheon is planned for the afternoon of Dec. 30. Speakers include Mayor William Donald Schaefer, sportscaster Vince Bagli and Morgan's athletic director Earl Banks.

Leadership and academic achievement awards will be made to players from the schools participating in the classic.

Bears down UB in final prep

Establishing a 10-point lead of 39-29 in the first half, Morgan State University was hard pressed to withstand a late rush by the University of Baltimore Tuesday night, but managed to hold on to win by three, 68-65.

Fewer than 1,000 fans turned out for the pre-Christmas game at the Civic Center.

Sophomore Eric Evans, heir to the center post held for three years by Marvin Webster, led the Bears in scoring with 26 points and 12 rebounds.

The game was Morgan's final prep for the Kiwanis Classic which begins Monday at Civic Center. She goes into the 2-day meet with Howard, Drexel and Randolph-Macon sporting seven wins against one defeat.

The Bees are now 3-6 on the year.

Motorcycle event Sunday at Capital

The Eastern Motorcycle Club of Baltimore will begin its Jack Frost motocross series on Sunday.

This is an annual event that will run through February, 1976. Each event will consist of three classes of motorcycles, and each class will have an "A", "B" and "C" grade, with "A" being the more experienced and skilled rider.

The events will be held at Capital Raceway located 20 miles south of Baltimore on Md. Rt. 3 near Crofton.

AFRO Sports

Skip Wise to learn pro fate next Tuesday

Skip Wise, the former scholastic All-American from Dunbar High School, may learn soon whether he is going to have another chance in professional basketball.

Wise, who left Clemson University after a brilliant freshman season last year is among five players announced available for a draft by National Basketball Association teams.

NBA commissioner Lawrence O'Brien set a supplementary draft of the five for next Tuesday (Dec. 30).

Skip, signed to a multi-year contract in October by the ill-fated Baltimore Claws, was out of a job — and earning potential — when the team folded. It was learned afterward that Wise's pact did not contain a personal-services stipulation, hence his claims against the Claws were non-existent.

He then was picked up by the San Antonio Spurs, but was released by that club over the weekend.

In Tuesday's draft, Moses Malone of St. Louis, Mark Olberding and Wise of San Antonio, Mel Bennett of Virginia and Charlie Jordan of Indiana, will be selected.

The youngsters are playing professional ball but never have been available for the NBA college draft because their original class has not yet graduated and they had not applied for hardship consideration.

The draft originally was scheduled for Dec. 8 but the ABA Players Association sought a preliminary injunction to prevent the draft from taking place. Federal Judge Robert L. Carter delayed the draft but last Friday denied the motion, paving the way for the draft to take place.

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