

Let me be more specific, and let me say, that if you are dubious, I will open my files to the FBI and document these findings. My condition for this, however, is that the FBI report be provided to me in advance for review and also that it be made public, and if the facts warrant, the report be presented to Federal Grand Juries.

A number of former officials and employees of the Department of Interior with inside knowledge of oil shale matters have gone to work for law firms, private companies and consulting firms seeking to obtain oil shale rights from the Department or have on their own been trying to obtain patents on questionable oil shale mining claims.

One former employee is going to great lengths to patent pre-1920 claims on which he stands to make \$50 million or more, and from which he has already derived large sums.

Various employees and officials have left the Interior Department in recent years to enter private positions where their inside knowledge is probably their key asset. This may perhaps be within the letter of the law, but it surely violates the spirit of public service.

Who is to protect the public interest against this sort of flagrant abuse?

(b) Officials in the Interior Department, some at the political level, have been evasive, refused to provide factual information, and have not been candid to me in some instances in their efforts to cover up their maladministration and their efforts to give away the oil shale resource.

(c) Justice Department officials have not been candid and indeed have tried to provide misleading answers to my inquiries.

(d) The Secretary of Interior, the Attorney General, and certain White House officials have not been courteous enough to respond to my inquiries. If and when their subordinates did respond, they did so with great delay and more often than not with great evasiveness and even with outright inaccurate if not **fraudulent replies**.

(e) Certain key members of the Congress including some who had accepted oil interest contributions and some who had been involved in pushing the Department of Interior to approve patents have refused to provide honest answers to direct inquiries by me. Others have introduced flagrant give away bills which would strip the public of billions if not trillions of dollars of oil shale wealth. See the 10th and 13th articles in my series published August 25 and September 29, 1966 respectively.

(f) An assistant to former Under Secretary John Carver who drafted the original give away bill on February 27, 1962 to validate even the worse tenuous pre-1920 oil shale claims and turn them over to the claimants at \$2.50 an acre, has denied to me that he did so. I regard this as an outright lie. This draft was the prototype for similar bills actually introduced by two Colorado Senators. And these bills have never been repudiated by the Secretary of Interior or by the Department.

2. Destruction of those who try to protect the public

A second basic requirement for faithful and effective public service is that civil servants and officials who stand up for the public interest be secure against hostile or punitive attacks on their persons or on their character. If honest public employees are not protected against vicious attacks by a claimant, a Congressman who represents the claimant, or by their bosses or even their department heads if they courageously oppose illegal give aways or unsound public policies our entire governmental structure will rot and the public welfare will suffer.

I have found that the oil shale give away issue has produced one of the most horrible instances of attacks and mistreatment of incorruptible civil servants imaginable. The Dreyfus and the Billy Mitchell cases could not have been worse.

Gentlemen of the Senate, make no mistake on this, for I have the solid documented facts. Four employees who uncovered the mineral resource give aways and put the Interior Department in the position of having to stop the give aways of land worth \$2,000 an acre for \$2.50 an acre on the basis of flimsy pre-1920 claims have had their careers and reputations destroyed by vicious means. See an article entitled "Teapot Dome, 1967?" by Adam Hochschild, published in the May 1967 issue of Ramparts Magazine. Also see the 21st article in my series published January 26, 1967.

The four employees were hounded, interrogated, threatened, denied promotions, had their work demeaned and reversed regardless of the merits; were