

Jack Anderson Does Not Have The Right To Lie

The National Caucus of Labor Committees released the following statement Feb. 1, for endorsement by representatives of farm, labor, minority, civic, and industry groups.

Jack Anderson's nationally syndicated column Jan. 30, in which he libels the National Caucus of Labor Committees, exemplifies the current deliberate misuse of "freedom of the press" for the purpose of falsely characterizing individuals and groups, and associating them with violence, crime, and terrorism.

This Anderson column lies to portray the NCLC as armed fanatics, associated with threats on the life of Nelson Rockefeller. Every so-called fact in the column was fabricated to support this view, and the NCLC will be forced to file a costly and involved legal action for redress and damages.

This same type of deliberate, dangerous fabrication is being run against the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Since the NAACP leadership released their energy policy statement in December 1977, they have been subject to a barrage of lies and distortions that they have been "bought out" by "big oil," that they support price deregulation, and that they are in any case incompetent to formulate policies in the area of energy. These racist lies have appeared in format fashion throughout a media circuit

including the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and the *Village Voice*.

These and other media outlets and individual reporters are part of a network including the Fund for Investigation Journalism (of which Mr. Anderson is an Advisory Board member) and the Washington Institute for Policy Studies, which specializes in coordinating slanderous press campaigns against representatives of labor, agriculture, industry, and minority and political spokesmen whose views these same media and their backers oppose. Their particular targets are those individuals who favor economic growth and high-technology energy expansion.

We, the undersigned, deplore this abuse of journalism. At this juncture in history it is vital that the American people have the information necessary to make policy decisions on energy and questions of economic development which will determine the future for ourselves and all the world's people. We condemn in particular the control and use of journalism for political "Watergating" of advocates of economic growth.

We endorse the standards of journalism established by Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton: freedom of the press is the responsibility to honestly inform the population on the national and international news that will enable our fullest competent participation in determining world events.

The Crib

When New York's fourth daily newspaper, *The Trib*, was launched last month, New Yorkers may have hoped for a respite from the daily lies of the "good grey Times," the no-news *Daily News*, and Rupert Murdoch's British-pedigreed *Post* scare and scandal mongering. But such hopes were quickly dispelled when the Buckley family enterprise, the tabloid *Trib*, appeared on newsstands its first day with an even more Anglophile "non-news hole" than the *New York Post*.

Anyone looking for news found a proliferation of British and American wire service shorts, instead, buried behind the *Trib*'s up-front words news analyses and feature columns cribbed from the Washington Post Writers' Group, the *Christian Science Monitor*, *New Republic*, and the Hearst press, to name a few. Moreover, *The Trib*, in its "First Day" signed editorial column by editor-in-chief and publisher Leonard Saffir, pledged, "Our voice will be moderate...we belong to no

political party." Yet it gave out the front page kicker, "For All Our Sakes...Go, Ed, Go!", the same day, directing the reader to its lead editorial endorsement of Mayor Koch and his "clear mandate" for austerity rule in New York.

Yes, the Buckley family which brought you vote fraud against Gerald Ford in the 1976 elections, which endorsed decriminalization of marijuana for the nation's youth, which backed Ed Koch for viceroy of New York — all under the label of "dyed in the wool conservatism" — now brings you *The Trib* New York, run by brother James (ex-Senator from New York), with the political duplicity and sheer incompetence that only a Buckley could bring you.

Trib editor-in-chief and publisher Leonard Saffir is the not-very-independently-wealthy former chief political aide to, and close personal friend of, former New York Senator James Buckley. The Chairman of the Board of