

Since that agreement was reached, however, at least one concerned citizen who contacted Federal authorities about the case has been told, "We don't plan to do anything about it. It's strictly a family affair."

Calls to the FBI and U.S. Attorney's office in Miami, where Gail is reportedly being held, elicited a similar runaround.

#### **Court Order**

August 2, the Labor Committees obtained a show cause order in a Philadelphia Federal court which requires that Gail's parents and Patrick appear in Philadelphia August 6 to explain why they should not be enjoined by the courts from further violations of Gail's

civil rights. But if the FBI and prosecutor's office stonewall and refuse to bring in the criminals, freeing Gail Roeshman will depend on bringing further massive political pressure to bear.

If the President and the executive branch no longer have the authority to control Federal police, if Congress is enshrining the police agencies as a law unto themselves, if Federal prosecutors and police refuse to perform their duty to enforce the law and Federal courts are powerless, to whom should workers and other citizens turn to defend themselves against outright police repression? Obviously not to the fearless "investigative reporters" of the bourgeois press.

## **Foreign Press On Watergate**

August 5 (IPS) — The stepped-up offensive of the Rockefeller pro-impeachment forces in Congress has been complemented by allied forces in the Rockefeller-controlled foreign press. Especially in Italy and Great Britain, where Rockefeller's interests are well entrenched, the press has been used not only to organize the domestic population to accept the chaos and confusion of a watergated U.S., but actually to float rumors which would be highly suspect from an American press source.

The Soviet press, on the other hand, has been careful to avoid drawing any conclusions which might damage the Soviets' detente dreams, consistently referring to Watergate as "the so-called Watergate Affair."

#### **British Rumor Mill**

The *London Times*, *Telegraph* and *Express*, the three leading bourgeois British dailies, have conducted a growing psy-war rumor campaign against Nixon over the past week, picking up on the Judiciary Committee's steamrolling impeachment vote. The August 2 *Express* headline blared "Nixon May Quit in Deal" and reported that a "frazzled" President will soon make a resignation deal with Congress and Vice President Ford. The *Telegraph* echoes the theme, mooting the inevitability of Ford's accession to the Presidency.

The *London Times*, speaking directly for the Rockefeller forces, makes the point clear. August 1 the *Times* reports that "sources" believe Nixon will be out of office by Christmas, that Ford will then be President and will consider nominating Nelson Rockefeller, Barry

Goldwater, or Elliot Richardson, in order, as Vice President!

#### **The Italian Angle**

*La Stampa*, the Italian daily controlled by FIAT owner Agnelli, has been a reliable tool of the Watergaters since the Watergate conspiracy's inception. Of late, however, *La Stampa* Washington correspondent Vittorio Zucconi has honed in on the real story behind Watergate and "confused" *La Stampa's* readers with columns which directly contradict the paper's editorial line. Last week a guest editorial by A. Rouchey, an ex-editor of *La Stampa*, recommended that should Nixon survive the impeachment proceedings somehow he ought to resign anyway! Yet Zucconi commented cautiously July 31: "Outside the substance of the charges, one could say that the discovery that the king is naked [and] the shattering of the myth of the sacredness of the Presidency has generated the desire for overkill in the Congressmen."

#### **Soviet Silence**

The Soviets, desperate to avoid any embarrassment which might jeopardize the now dissipating "winds of detente," have been generally tight-lipped about Watergate. Last year's suggestion that Watergate was a conspiracy by rightwing forces to sabotage detente has not been repeated. Now infrequent reports simply indicate briefly that impeachment is underway without explaining what this impeachment is. Similarly, Nixon's press statements accusing the press of distorting the "so-called" Watergate Affair are published verbatim — without comment.