

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 37 (1973)
Heft: [9]

Artikel: Could "Watergate" happen in Switzerland?
Autor: Biland, Arnold
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942168>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 20.02.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

COULD "WATERGATE" HAPPEN IN SWITZERLAND?

The President of the Swiss Confederation is elected for one year. He is chosen from the Federal Council (Cabinet) of 7 members (Ministers) and elected by the General Assembly, consisting of both houses of parliament, the Council of State (Staenderat) and the National Council (Nationalrat).

Because we realise that the concentration of absolute power in one human being is extremely dangerous, the delegation of such power to anyone, wherever and whatever he may be, is strictly limited and safeguards in this respect are applied right throughout our Constitution. This no doubt has its drawbacks, but it removes the possibility of a mere mortal beginning to think he is God himself.

As there is no reason at all trying to reach for a position of power which is just not available, the answer to my question above is NO.

I grieve for the President of the U.S.A. and its people. It is unbelievable to my mind that the head of the most powerful nation on earth can be subjected to those vicious and discrediting attacks by opposing political parties, to the detriment of him and at the same time to their whole country. A president, elected by the majority of the voters, should be sacro sanct (to have absolute immunity).

I remember the two world wars and I have not forgotten how much the free world, and this means you and me, owes to the American people.

Arnold Biland.