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*Justice Traynor To Head U.S. Press Council* and Berton  
J. Ballard's Letter to Roger Traynor

Bert J. Ballard

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Talks Bert Ballard

## Justice Traynor

## To Head U. S.

## Press Council

### New York

Roger Traynor, former chief justice of the California Supreme Court, has been named chairman of a new national news council that will investigate complaints against the press and threats to its freedom.

The council to be financed by the Twentieth Century Fund, a non-profit research organization, will begin its operations in 1973.

Justice Traynor, at present a professor of law at Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco, is a member of a committee working on the final details of how the national council will function.

The council has been described as a sort of "ombudsman" that will investigate complaints brought by both the public and the press.

*Our Correspondent*

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December 7, 1972

Hon. Roger Traynor  
Hastings College of the Law  
Mc Allister Street  
San Francisco, Ca. 94102

Dear Roger:

Congratulations on your new ombudsman's job. I'm happy that you are now working the same side of the street as I; and I hope you will call upon me to lend a hand if you think I can help.

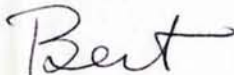
Enclosed is a statement (to Presiding Judges in California) of the two prong approach of Project Benchmark. We have established excellent relations with all major communication media in California. The enclosed xerox of material from the Commentary may give you some idea of our work among the judges (slow going).

The school teachers are responding to our materials (a pamphlet and two background pieces on Evidence and Due Process). We've gone through three large printings for teachers and students within the last three months. Our estimate is that we'll need half a million before school ends.

After retirement from the State Bar it has been good to work with the judges along parallel lines to my old job.

Gertrude and I send you and your wife our sincerest wishes for a great New Year.

Yours Sincerely,



Berton J. Ballard, Director