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Hunt testifies Bremer raid one of orders

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WASHINGTON — About an hour after the attempt to assassinate Alabama Governor George Wallace last year, special presidential counsel Charles Colson ordered E. Howard Hunt to fly immediately to Milwaukee and illegally break into the apartment of the suspected assailant, according to accounts of sworn testimony by Hunt.

Colson told Hunt, who has since being convicted of the Watergate break-in, to bring back information from the apartment of the suspect, Arthur Bremer, that might be useful in linking Bremer to left-wing political causes, according to the accounts.

Hunt, then a White House consultant, was unable to get to Milwaukee fast enough to commit the burglary without running a high risk of being caught and the project was abandoned, say the accounts of recent testimony by Hunt to a closed-door session of the Senate's Watergate investigating committee.

Wallace, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination at the time of the attempt on his life, was shot by Bremer in a Laurel, Md., shopping centre.

One White House source



HOWARD HUNT
Not fast enough

said that when President Richard Nixon learned of the shooting, he became deeply upset and voiced concern that the attempt might have been made by someone with ties to the Republican party or the Nixon campaign because it could cost him the election. "The president was agitated and wanted the polit-

cal background on Bremer," the source said.

Colson yesterday categorically denied that he had ordered Hunt to Milwaukee for any purpose.

"It is absolutely untrue and I'd swear it is untrue under oath," Colson said. He produced a copy of a memo dated June 20, 1972 — three days after the Watergate break-in and the same day of the first news accounts of Hunt's possible involvement in the bugging operation.

In the memo, Colson said: "I also talked to him (Hunt) on the telephone the night Governor Wallace was shot simply to ask him for his reactions on what he thought might have been the cause of the attempted assassination."

Senate sources said they place a different interpretation on Colson's memo: "It could have been the beginning of the cover-up," one Senate attorney said.

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