

Fla. Hotel Records Sought

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The Senate select Watergate committee has subpoenaed registration records from hotels in Key Biscayne, Fla., as part of its investigation into alleged cash contributions by billionaire recluse Howard Hughes to President Nixon's political efforts.

The committee has asked for records pertaining to visits to the hotels between Jan. 1, 1970, and Nov. 7, 1972, by 19 persons, includ-

ing C. B. (Bebe) Rebozo, President Nixon's friend and confidant; F. Donald Nixon, the president's brother, and convicted Watergate conspirators G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt Jr.

Committee sources said the subpoenas relate to matters raised in a federal court deposition given recently in Los Angeles by former Hughes aide Robert Maheu.

Maheu has alleged that \$100,000 was paid in two cash installments of \$50,000

each to Rebozo in 1969 and 1970. The second payment was made by Maheu and Hughes aide Richard Danner at Key Biscayne, where both Rebozo and President Nixon own homes, Maheu has said.

Committee sources would not offer any details, but said that the subpoenas were part of a serious effort to probe Hughes's campaign contributions in connection with the next phase of the Watergate hearings.

The Los Angeles Times reported, and The Washington Post confirmed, that records were subpoenaed from at least four hotels — the Royal Biscayne, Sonesta Beach, Cramden Park and Key Biscayne. The Miami News reported that all Key Biscayne hotels and motels received the subpoenas.

Most of the persons named in the subpoenas are present or former associates or employees of Hughes. The subpoenas ask for hotel records pertaining to the 19 persons named as well as registration cards, receipts, room service charge slips and records of telephone calls made from the rooms.

Among the persons named on the list is Herman M. (Hank) Greenspun, publisher of the Las Vegas Sun. It was Greenspun's office that was the target of a proposed break-in plan last year.

In Hunt's recent testimony before the Watergate committee, he told of the break-in plan that he said was developed by him, Liddy and Hughes's security aide, Ralph Winte.

The purpose of the break-in, proposed in early 1972, was to obtain documents from Greenspun's safe that would give insight into the presidential chances of Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Maine), Hunt was believed to be damaged.

Hunt said the break-in never took place. Greenspun has maintained he had no documents damaging to Muskie, but that it was widely known that he did have documents—many of them handwritten memos by Hughes—that could be embarrassing to Hughes and to persons close to President Nixon, and which were a more likely target of a break-in plan.

Others named in the subpoenas include Robert F. Bennett, a former business associate of Hunt and president of the Robert R. Mullen Co., a firm that does public relations work for Hughes enterprises; former Nevada Gov. Paul Laxalt; John Meier, a former Hughes aide and a friend of Donald Nixon, who is currently under indictment on tax evasion charges related to the sale of mining claims to Hughes; and several other Hughes executives.

The subpoenas also include the names of several aliases used by Hunt and Liddy, as well as requests for information on hotel stays by anyone working for the Committee for the Re-election of the President; the Mullen Co.; Intertel, a private investigative firm that worked for Hughes, and Hughes' major enterprise, Summa Corp.