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Hoffa Judge Asks For Wiretap Logs

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug. 19 (AP)—A federal judge ordered the government today to furnish him the transcript of a bugged conversation between a top witness at former Teamsters Union president James R. Hoffa's jury tampering trial and another Teamsters official convicted with Hoffa.

Walter P. Sheridan, a former Justice Department investigator, was the first government witness in the Supreme Court-ordered hearing into alleged wiretapping and bugging by federal agents during the 1964 trial of Hoffa in Chattanooga.

Sheridan, under questioning by defense lawyers, admitted that a car bugged by the FBI was used by Edward Grady Partin, a Baton Rouge, La., Teamsters official. He said a conversation between Partin, a star witness against Hoffa, and Ewing King, another Teamsters official and one of Hoffa's codefendants, was recorded.

Harold Brown of Chatta-

nooga, one of King's lawyers, asked the court to deliver the transcript of the recording to the defense. Instead, U.S. District Court Judge Frank W. Wilson, who presided at the 1964 trial, ordered the Justice Department to turn the transcript over to him for study before he decides on the defense request.

Hoffa is serving an eight-year prison sentence at the federal correctional institution at Lewisburg, Pa.

As the proceedings got under way, Hoffa's wife fainted in the courtroom. She was taken from the federal building in a wheelchair and driven to her hotel room here.

Brown read Sheridan a transcript of his testimony in 1967 at an earlier, unsuccessful bid by Hoffa to overturn the conviction. In this transcript, Brown quoted Sheridan as saying, "I categorically and specifically deny engaging in any wiretapping or illegal eavesdropping."

"Who ruled that the bugging was legal?" Brown asked Sheridan.

A. The Justice Department did not think the bugging was illegal.

Q. Was the transcript used before the grand jury to indict Mr. King.

A. No.

At issue is whether the wiretapping violated Hoffa's rights under the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution.

His codefendants, King, Larry Campbell, a Detroit Teamsters official, and Thomas Ewing Parks, of Nashville, received three-year terms in the case. They were convicted of trying to bribe a Nashville federal court juror in a conspiracy case against Hoffa.

Hoffa and the others must prove the wiretap information was used in such a way as to violate their rights and "taint" the convictions.

It is the fifth hearing for a new trial in the case.