

When the FBI found out that I had been mistakenly given a copy of the documents reproduced in this article by a secretary at the Federal Court House, they attempted to steal these documents back from me at the Miami Airport!

The Miami Field Office of the FBI had already developed an intensive fear of my research, ever since I discovered a misfiled secret document indicating that Frank Sturgis and Jerry Buchanan had acted as confidential informants in the trial of pot smuggler Ken Bursline. Bursline's conviction led to the indictment of about 50 other people including Mitchell Livingston Werbell III, the defacto head of the CIA's Unconventional Assassination Weapon's Division. (When Bursline died in a mysterious airplane crash shortly before he was scheduled to testify most of the indictments were dropped and Werbell was acquitted.)

This was why they had the phone where I was staying tapped and when I made my return reservations, they alerted their two sleazy Special Agents who are permanently on duty at Miami Airport; the upshot of it was that they were able to tip me off for a mess of CIA documents but I didn't let the WERBELL EXHIBIT DOCUMENTS presented here out of my sight for a second!!

Clarence the Bozo Kelly, and his brigade of Keystone Cops were not able to stop the publication of these secret Watergate documents, the first of which deals with secret interviews between Senator Weiker, his aid Peter Kinsey, and Lucien Conein. Lucien Conein at age 17 fled his hometown in Kansas to join the French Foreign Legion during World War II. He worked for OSS in France where he lived and fought with the Corsican Brotherhood which was part of the resistance. The Brotherhood is an underworld organization deeply involved in the drug trade which is sometimes considered more dangerous than its Sicilian counterpart, the Mafia.

After the liberation, Conein parachuted into Vietnam to join an OSS Team fighting the Japanese alongside Ho Chi Minh, and General Giap. In 1954 he was back in Vietnam fighting his old allies as one of General Edward Lansdale's Special Forces Team. He helped Diem consolidate power in Vietnam, but in 1963 he was the U.S. Embassy's liaison with the cabal of generals who murdered him. Conein married a Vietnamese woman, and was on intimate terms with most of the Vietnamese high command, but was sent back to Washington since most of the CIA considered him unstable. He soon returned to Vietnam as part of an elite counter-insurgency team which included Daniel Ellsberg. It was this association which brought him to the attention of the White House consultant E. Howard Hunt, who happened to be an old OSS colleague of Conein's. Hunt consulted with Conein about some forged telegrams which implied that Kennedy ordered the assassination of Diem. As a reward for his cooperation Conein was given a job within the Drug Enforcement Administration as a Representative of the CIA.

He was eventually promoted to Head of Special Operations of the Strategic Intelligence Section of the DEA.

Conein's remark upon viewing the B.R. Fox Catalogue of assassination equipment that "This guy Mitch is one of the craziest S.O.B.'s that I have ever met" is significant since it indicated that Werbell was synonymous with the B.R. Fox Co., whose owners were Barbara Fox, and Michael Morrissey. Morrissey replaced Bernie Spindel, Barbara's husband, after his death in 1971. Spindel achieved notoriety in the mid 1960's when it was revealed that he had acted as a hugging and wire-tap specialist for Jimmy Hoffa. Conein goes on to claim that the B.R. Fox Co. was legally licensed and was doing work for the government. In reality the B.R. Fox Co. was part of the U.S.



# DEA shops for assassination gadgets

who the CIA supported!

In 1974 the B.R. Fox Co. shared an office with Mitch Werbel in the LaSalle Building on Connecticut Avenue in Washington, D.C. This was during the period that Werbel was negotiating a bizarre arms deal with Robert Vesco, the fugitive swindler in Costa Rica. Werbel agreed to sell Vesco his entire stock of 2,000 silence/machine guns, but he was unable to get an export license, so he instead agreed to build a sub-machine gun in Costa Rica. Located just below Werbel was a strike force of 12 CIA Agents put together by Conein for para-military operations against international drug smugglers.

Conein says he "did not know why someone would try to sell him assassination equipment," as if murder was the last thing on Conein's mind. This is nonsense. Conein's job with the D.E.A. involved finding international drug traffickers and summarily executing them. Peer Da Silva, who was Conein's boss as Saigon Station Chief after the Diem assassination said, "You have got to start out with the premise that Lou Conein is crazy. He worked with me in Vietnam, if work is the word. We have all kinds of villains and rogues involved as well as heroes, and within reason if you keep them under control, then people like

Conein himself told journalist George Crile III that the D.E.A., "Has no cover as far as breaking laws and after this damn Church Committee we will have even less. You cannot do it because 12 or 13 years later you might have to stand up there with your balls exposed."

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES  
FROM PETE KINSEY (AID TO SENATOR WEICKER)  
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH LUCIEN CONEIN

On January 21, 1975 Senator Weicker and I interviewed Col. Lucien Conein who is currently head of special operations of the strategic intelligence section of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Conein said that he retired from the CIA in July of 1968. In 1969 he went to South Vietnam on his own where he tried to make some money through his connections there. Being unsuccessful, he returned to the U.S. in early 1971. He went to France for six weeks with his wife and returned in April, 1971. In late '71-early '72 he was contacted by the White House regarding his knowledge of drugs in SE Asia. Krogh was the first person to talk to Conein about this and asked him what he thought about the drug situation and what would he do if he had the responsi-

On another occasion, Krogh asked Conein about how to go about setting up a drug intelligence organization and that although the White House was getting inputs from Customs and BNDD, he wanted an-outsider to take a look at it. Conein wrote another paper stating that trafficking organizations had to be penetrated using basically the same clandestine means which had generally been employed by the CIA in SE Asia.

About the time of the release of the Pentagon Papers, Conein said he got a call from an acquaintance, Howard Hunt, who said he wanted Conein to come to the White House to talk to him. This occurred in early July, 1971. Hunt told Conein that he was working for the President and that anything that was said between them would be covered by executive privilege. Hunt interviewed Conein at the White House and asked him about Ellsberg whom Conein had worked with in Vietnam. Conein told Hunt that Ellsberg had been highly thought of while in Vietnam—in fact—so highly thought of that Ambassador Porter had taken him on his staff. (Note—this was the meeting Hunt had installed the tape recorder under the couch and then sat on it)

Conein said he was surprised when the camera crews arrived at his house the day of the Pentagon Papers release. Conein said Bill Gill of ABC handed him a copy of the NY Times and had underlined Conein's name in the numerous places it appeared. Conein told Gill that he couldn't talk to him because of the security agreement he had entered into with the CIA when he had left. According to Conein, Gill then said that he knew a security man at the CIA that he would call to see if permission could be given for Conein to talk. Conein said that Gill called this man using Conein's phone. The CIA called Gill back a while later and told him that Conein could not talk. Conein said that in those days you thought "holy hell" would fall on you if you talked.

Conein said he had never had any contact with Kissinger; but that he had met his principal aids. He had known Haig from his days in Vietnam and recalled John Lehman's name. He said there were others but he couldn't remember their names. Conein said that Hunt had not found him in a shopping center on his way out of the country. Hunt had been trying to call him at home but Conein had changed his phone to an unlisted number so Hunt had difficulty in reaching him. Conein said, however, that Hunt called him at home. Conein said that after Gill had left, the CIA called him and asked if the press had left. When Conein told them that they had, the CIA told Conein to meet them in a bowling alley behind a McClean shopping center. Conein said he met the CIA people at the bowling alley where he was given a sealed envelope. He took the envelope home and opened it and found \$500. in 20's. Conein said he laughed, threw the money in the air and said to himself, "Where the hell can I go on \$500?" with a wife, three kids, dogs, etc. Conein said that he called the CIA security man and told him that he was not a CIA paid agent and that he was not leaving. He wrote a note returning the \$500. to the CIA and signed it "Luigi".

During the time the white paper on the DIEM coups was being prepared by NBC, Conein said he was called and told that the White House was interested in Conein being interviewed. Conein said that he contacted the CIA security people who gave permission for him to do the interview. Conein said that the White House wanted him to say who had actually engineered the Diem Assassination. Conein said that he would not do it—that his interest in the story was what the CIA had done to prevent the assassination. He did say that the interview, which was aired in Dec. of 1971, did not come out the way it should have.

Conein said that in January of 1972, Krogh called him to the White

# Concinn

pay him for it. The work involved writing two more papers relating to international drug trafficking. After that Krogh told Concin that they could no longer keep him at the White House and asked him if he was interested in going to BNDD or Customs. Concin said he selected BNDD because it was related to his field of expertise. Ingersoll interviewed Concin in June, 1972 after which BNDD intelligence took Concin on as a consultant until they offered him a permanent position in December of 1972.

Concin said he had never met Colson or John Scalin. He said he learned of Colson posing as Fred Charles in the telephone calls as a result of the Watergate testimony.

Concin said he never denied having seen the cables forged by Hunt. He said that there were a stack of cables—all with Top Secret classifications. He didn't read them because he did not have a security clearance. Concin said he only saw the forged cable much later at a meeting with Lambert of Life magazine. Lambert had called him and said that he had a document that he wanted Concin to see. Concin met him and Lambert showed him the cable. Concin said when he saw it that if it were true, that he (Concin) had been played for a patsy by Henry Cabot Lodge. Concin said after that he went home and on a green (secure) phone called Colby at the CIA and told him of the cable and its implications. Colby said he had never seen the cable either. Concin said the cable showed complicity of the White House in instructions to Lodge to have Diem assassinated. However, according to Concin, Lodge would have had to have been awake at 6 am and he knew that Lodge never got up at 6 am.

Concin said that the BNDD-CIA agreement was terminated in July of 1973.

Concin said he never saw Ehrlichman.

Concin said that after Nixon's big meeting on narcotics in 1971, the CIA formed a narcotics unit to coordinate intelligence activities. He said that for example, the CIA in Laos in 1971 were not concerned about drug traffic, but that when Nixon stepped up efforts against international traffickers, action was required. Coordination was also required. Krogh was the coordinator at the White House and chaired the committee responsible for coordinating agency efforts.

At BNDD (and now DEA) Concin worked in strategic intelligence. His first job was to start assembling the necessary information to develop patterns of trafficking organizations. Concin is now heading up the special operations section which involves training individuals to go into a country (with that country's approval) to gather intelligence on trafficking organizations. Concin said that the DEA man establishes the operation and when the host country approves, he goes in-country and works with the host country's authorities. Concin said that this may involve recruiting in-country nationals and supplying and training them in the use of electronic bugging and camera equipment. Concin said that he has three men on his staff and 14 individuals in various stages of training.

When Weicker showed Concin the B.R. Fox catalogue of assassination equipment, Concin said "Yes sir... boy this is something... This guy Mitch is one of the craziest SOB's I've ever met." Concin said that about a year ago he was looking for some specialized 50 cycle bugging devices for use overseas. He said that Mike Morrissey of B.R. Fox made such equipment. He said that when Morrissey was demonstrating the bugging equipment he also brought in some assas-

ination devices. Concin said he didn't buy any—that he wouldn't own one. Concin said he did not know Barbara Fox Spindel and could not recall ever hearing of Bernie Spindel.

Weicker said that from reading the cover memo, it sounded like Morrissey was making the equipment especially for Concin. Concin said that was not true and that he would go under oath. Concin said that he has never had this type of equipment. Concin said he never showed any interest in the ASTRO line of equipment.

Concin said that in April or May 1974 he ordered bugging equipment from B.R. Fox for use overseas. The equipment included 3 online telephone bugging devices, 3 telephone bugging devices, and 3 receivers. He said he still had the equipment since it had been decided not to use it.

Concin said that he first met Morrissey in 1973. At the time Morrissey had developed a Kel unit in the shape of a large belt. Concin said he met Morrissey in the Rosslyn area where Morrissey had an office. He told Morrissey to send the belt over to Justice for them to look at. The belt was returned to Morrissey because it was too heavy to use. Concin said he met Morrissey again in April or May of 1974 and told him he was interested in listening devices. Concin said he met Morrissey a total of four or five times. He said that DEA ordered the bugging equipment from him but that he was not very reliable because he did not deliver on schedule.

Concin said that he and Mitch Werbell had been in the OSS together in China. He said that Werbel was an armaments manufacturer and that he had been to Werbel's plant outside Atlanta on two occasions. He said that Werbel was a big wheeler-dealer and that on one occasion had wanted Concin to go to London for him to arrange purchase of scrap from South Vietnam. Concin said that Werbel has a fantastic weapons collection including thousands of silencers for machine guns.

Concin said that at the demonstration, Morrissey demonstrated the bugging equipment, but another man demonstrated the assassination devices. Concin said that over the years lots of people have shown him lots of devices of this sort, but he remarked that he was intrigued with these devices because they were triggered electronically instead of chemically. Concin remarked that a lot of people think that once you have been in the CIA you're always in the CIA.

Concin told Senator Weicker that he should ask for an FBI investigation and that he would voluntarily take a polygraph test. The only correspondence Concin said he had with Morrissey that he could recall was a letter of confirmation under title III of the wiretap statute that the equipment (bugging) would be used for law enforcement purposes. Concin did not know why someone would try to sell him assassination equipment. He said that there were a lot of people who thought he was more involved in things at the CIA than he really was. Weicker asked Concin if he had launched any inquiry after seeing the demonstration of assassination equipment. Concin said he had not—that B.R. Fox was legally licensed and doing work for the government. Concin said that the only agency he could think of which would be interested in the ASTRO equipment would be one of the covert arms of the CIA. Concin also mentioned that he told Morrissey after the demonstration that if organized crime ever got any of that equipment they would have a field day. Concin said that another man from his office by the name of Searle ("Bud") Frank was with him at the time of the demonstration.

I called Frank at his office at DEA and asked him if he would come join us in the meeting. Mr. Frank arrived and discussed his version of the meeting with Morrissey, which essentially confirmed

what Concin had told us. Frank said the equipment was demonstrated in an office on Connecticut Avenue outside of DEA headquarters. Mr. Frank said he took an academic interest in the assassination equipment because he had never seen such equipment before. Frank feels that Morrissey may have demonstrated the ASTRO equipment as a way of testing the waters or expressing professional pride. Frank said the meeting lasted about an hour and a half. Frank had no recollection of Morrissey saying that he had sold the assassination equipment to any other federal agency. Frank said he had the feeling that Morrissey's firm was with another arm of the government.

Frank said that DEA had never approved the ASTRO equipment or its applications. He said it was raised in informal discussions among the agents, but the superiors said that in no instance would such equipment ever be used. He said that as a result of recent Supreme Court decisions regarding wiretapping, it was decided that the bugging equipment they had purchased from Morrissey could not be used overseas.

At Senator Weicker's suggestion, Concin placed a call to Morrissey's office at the Watergate. Morrissey was out and Concin left word for Morrissey to call him. Concin said he would either have Morrissey contact me directly or he would get back to me after setting up a meeting.

The interview concluded at 3:00 p.m.

## Morrissey

The second set of documents concerned an interview Peter Kinsey had with Michael Morrissey. Notice how Barbara Spindel was given a job as secretary at the National Commission on Water Quality, which backs up my contention that the B.R. Fox Co. was actually part of the U.S. Government. Morrissey hints at this when he says that the CIA used to have its own laboratory in which they manufactured assassination equipment but that this was no longer the case. Morrissey had been widely quoted as saying that he put together the catalogue of assassination devices at the request of Concin, but at this interview he retracted the statement in a half-assed manner.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES  
FROM: PETE KINSEY  
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL MORRISSEY

On January 22, 1975, I met with Michael Morrissey in his office at the law firm of Reges & Zeiger, Suite 850, Watergate 600, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Morrissey began by saying that he had been involved in the B.R. Fox company as a means of providing income while he was attending law school. Morrissey said that he had known Bernie Spindel from the early sixties and after his death in February 1971, he and Spindel's wife—Barbara Fox Spindel—decided to continue the business as equal partners. Morrissey said that B.R. Fox went out of existence in November of 1974. In April of 1974, Barbara Fox Spindel had taken a full time job as a secretary at the National Commission on Water Quality. Morrissey said that he had a degree in electrical engineering but that he has chosen law as his profession over engineering.

Morrissey said that around May of 1973, he brought a belt transmitter to the Department of Justice for them to look at. He recalled that Lucien Concin was one of the individuals who would be looking at the equipment. He said that he knew that Concin was a high official in the Justice Department's Drug Enforcement Administration.

He said that some time after that Mitch Werbell, who at that time had an

office on Connecticut Ave., contacted him and said that he had a friend who was interested in seeing electronic bugging equipment. Morrissey said that he went over to Morrissey's office where he gave a demonstration of the bugging equipment to Concin and another man who was with him. When I asked him if he demonstrated any of the equipment in the Astro catalogue, he said he "imagined" he did. I asked him why he thought Concin would be interested in such equipment and he replied that Concin was a high Justice Department official and he wanted to show him a lot of things to demonstrate his capabilities.

Morrissey said that he thought that Eric Spindel, Barbara Spindel's son had been with him at the demonstration, but he could not recall for sure. He said that Spindel was in school in New York and that his phone number was (212) 691-2412. When I called that number the next day I got a recording saying the number had been disconnected.

Morrissey said that he knew that Werbel was in the armaments business and that he had had the Connecticut Avenue office for only a few months, from which he was trying to sell certain electronic scanning devices. He said that Werbel never showed any interest in the Astro equipment. He also said that Concin showed no interest in the assassination equipment at the demonstration. When I pressed him as to why, if Concin had no interest, he wrote in the cover memo to Werbel that the Astro equipment line was developed only after working with Concin. Morrissey said that although Concin showed no interest at the demonstration, he was not sure Concin was disinterested. In other words, Morrissey said that he did not interpret Concin's lack of interest as necessarily a dead end.

Morrissey said that he had not contacted any other agencies in an effort to market the assassination equipment. He said that although he had sold bugging equipment on one occasion to the CIA around December of 1971, he had never inquired of the CIA as to whether they were interested in the assassination equipment. Morrissey said that his only formal contacts he had had with Concin that he could recall were the demonstration and the time he delivered the equipment. He did say that he might have run into Concin in a bar.

Morrissey was interested in how we had come by our copy of the catalogue. He said that he had made only two copies—one for Concin and one for Werbel. He said that he had given a copy to Werbel only because Werbel had made the contact with Concin.

Morrissey said that he had run into people who said that the CIA had its own laboratory which made assassination equipment, but that the laboratory had been dissolved and the CIA now goes to outside sources for such equipment. He said that people told him that the CIA uses such equipment in Southeast Asia. When I asked him what people, Morrissey said that he didn't have any name offhand, but that he generally knew the CIA used such equipment.

Morrissey said that Concin had no knowledge prior to the demonstration of his capabilities to manufacture assassination equipment. When I asked Morrissey why had made such equipment, he said that what he was really attempting to show were his capabilities to manufacture sensitive electronic triggering device which might be of interest to the Bureau of Mines of the Atomic Energy Commission. When I told him that he sure had funny way of packaging his wares, he said he was not surprised that it had raised some concern.

Morrissey said that he had never actually tried out any of his assassination devices using explosives. He also said that the devices which he had demonstrated to Concin had been disassembled into component modules.

# COLSON BARRICADES CIA PLOT TO SNUFF SENATOR SAM

The first part of the Colson interview concerns various proprietaries, pawns, and dupes of the CIA. Colson believed that Hunt was working the White House and the CIA during Watergate.

Toward the end of this document Colson makes some interesting remarks about Richard Helm's blackmailing Kissinger, and a super secret division of the CIA which places operatives in key positions throughout the U.S. Government. Colson also links Miles Ambrose, the former head of U.S. Customs, with organized crime!

From: Pete Kinsey  
Subject: Meeting with Charles Colson on January 13, 1975

On January 13, 1975 Senator Weicker and I met with Charles W. Col-

son in the office of the U.S. Marshall in the Federal Court House, Washington, D.C. Mr. Colson was accompanied by his attorney, Kenneth L. Adams of the firm of Dickstein, Shapiro & Morin.

LW explained that he was interested in certain aspects of the CIA and its operations. Colson (CC) replied that he had earlier appeared before the Nedzi Committee to discuss his knowledge of CIA activities (presumably vis-a-vis Ellsberg/Watergate). CC indicated that he had earlier declined to appear because he had not been sentenced, but relented when pressed by Nedzi to appear. CC indicated his appearance lasted about an hour and that as soon as he began discussing substantive incidents of CIA activities, Nedzi adjourned the meeting. CC believed Nedzi is clearly in the CIA's pocket. (He also

feels that while Stennis is not in the CIA's pocket, he is unwittingly being duped.)

CC indicated that he was concerned over CIA relationships and infiltration into private enterprise and cited a number of examples:

-Paul O'Brien's law firm is on retainer to the CIA. The firm maintains an overseas office with one member a full-time CIA type.

-Mullens & Co. (Washington PR firm headed formerly by Robert Bennett) was on retainer to Howard Hughes's operation, which has definite CIA ties. Bennett's firm replaced L. Chrien when Maheau was fired. Maheau also had CIA ties.

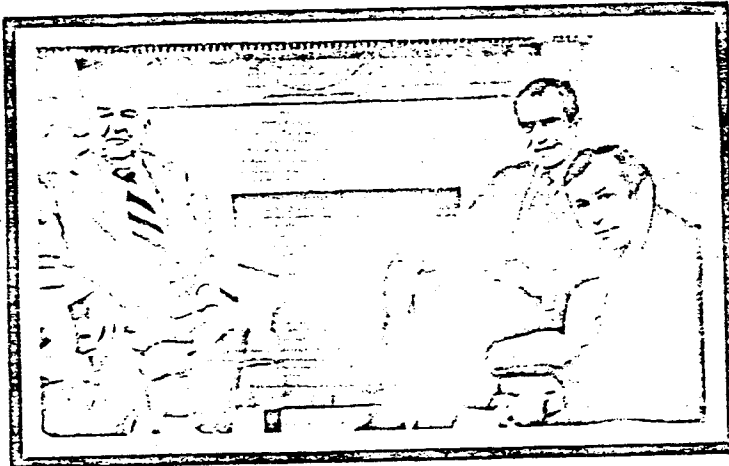
-Hughes is into Glomar Enterprises which is engaged in ocean floor exploration. The company's ship was financed and built by the CIA.

-Psychological Assessment Inc., a private Washington psychological testing firm acting as a CIA cover. Firm gave CIA access to thousands of psychological profiles. CC indicated that CIA had admitted its involvement in this firm but that it is now defunct.

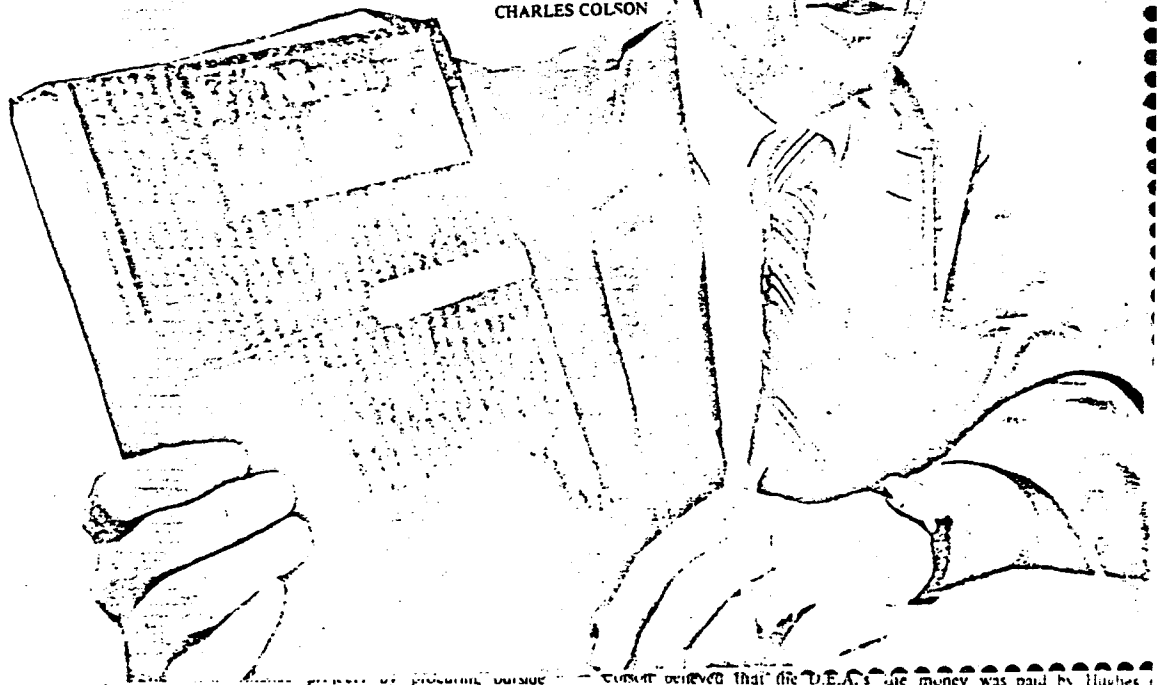
## Howard Hunt

CC stated that Hunt was one of six names he gave to Haldeman. CC picked Hunt because of his knowledge of foreign affairs and political astuteness. Hunt was working for Mullen & Co. but CC was unaware of the company's ties with the CIA. CC stated that Bob Bennett had been around for several months offering assistance to the White House and pushing Hunt on Colson and that when Colson was looking for someone, Hunt's name naturally came to mind. Colson further stated that Hunt had recruited the Cubans in April of 1971, which was four months before Colson brought Hunt on-board at the White House in July.

(continued on the following page)



Ervin, Nixon and Baker during Watergate.



CHARLES COLSON

... project of preparing outside ... current believed that the D.E.A.'s tie money was paid by Hughes

Colson stated that Hunt was receiving assistance from and dealing with the CIA up to the day of the Watergate and in this regard, at least, Bob Cushman did not tell the truth. Also, Richard Ober, on several occasions received packages from Hunt which he then passed on to Richard Helms. Colson indicated he did not know the contents of the packages. Colson stated that on one occasion Hunt told him that his financial problems were solved in that Helms had given him \$20,000 to take care of medical expenses for his sick daughter. Hunt also told Colson that Helms was a great guy.

Colson speculated that Hunt may have been serving two masters when the Watergate break-in occurred. Colson and Dean had queried Magruder as to why Spencer Oliver Jr.'s phone had been tapped as well as O'Brien's. Magruder answered that he did not know why inasmuch as Oliver's phone was not the target of the bugging operation. Colson then raised the fact that Spencer Oliver Senior was on the Hughes payroll and that when Maheau was fired, Larry O'Brien's P.R. firm lost its Hughes' retainer to Mullen & Company. According to Hunt's book, Colson stated that Oliver Junior had been with the CIA.

Colson mentioned the name Morton Jackson and identified him as a Los Angeles attorney. He said Hunt contacted Jackson the morning before the Fielding break-in. According to Colson, the Greenspan break-in was planned in Jackson's house. Hunt stayed with Jackson at the time he was ordered out of the country. According to Colson, Jackson has never been interviewed.

#### Lucien Conein

Colson stated that he had come across Conein through Howard K. Smith of ABC. Conein's name had not surfaced in the course of the Pentagon Papers affair. Smith had called Colson regarding the Pentagon Papers and certain "missing cables." Smith had discovered Conein who had been the CIA's chief operative in Saigon during the Diem coup. When Bill Gill of ABC was about to interview Conein, he (Gill) got a call from Henry Kissinger who told him to stay away from Conein as he was involved in matters of utmost national security. Smith called Colson to find out what was going on. Colson told Ehrlichman about it, who in turn told Colson to have Hunt interview Conein to find out what he knew. Hunt found Conein in a McLean, Virginia shopping center just after Conein had been given \$500. Hunt interviewed Conein in Ehrlichman's office after the Secret Service had installed a tape recorder under a couch (Jack Caulfield was requested to arrange the installation). Hunt knew that Conein was a heavy drinker and Colson had had his secretary obtain a bottle of scotch for the meeting. With the tape recorder installed, Hunt did not have to worry about taking notes or how much liquor he himself put down. Apparently both Conein and Hunt got pretty well smashed and Conein talked at length in detail. The only problem was that Hunt was sitting on the spot where the tape recorder was placed so the machine did not work. After the interview when this was discovered, Colson said he poured black coffee down Hunt to sober him up and then tried to reconstruct what Conein had said. They could not reconstruct everything, which prompted the phone call by Hunt and Colson (using the name Fred Charles) the following day (July 7, 1971).

Colson stated that he saw Conein in December of 1971 just before Conein was to be interviewed by CBS. In the interview, Conein did not get into nearly any of the detail that he had in his discussions with Hunt although the CIA was still apparently displeased that he had done the interview.

Hunt claims to have shown Conein the forged cables relating to the Diem

the fact that they had been against Conein's explicit instructions. Conein denies that he ever saw the cables.

Colson speculated on Kissinger's touchiness on the subject of Conein. Conein was the Viet Nam specialist still with the CIA. The CIA was afraid of Conein in that it did not want to take the rap for some of Conein's past activities.

Colson stated that he was involved in Conein going over to DEA. He believes that there is a memo to Ehrlichman in the White House file concerning Conein going over to DEA. He believes Conein was sponsored in this regard by Hunt who wanted to keep Conein around in the government in case more information was needed. Colson thought the arrangements may have been worked out by Bud Krogh, who was responsible for setting up the interagency coordination between DEA and CIA. Krogh was heavily involved in this area and made several trips to Southeast Asia paid for by the CIA. (At the time, Krogh was also a member of the White House Plumbers operation, according to Colson.) The idea was for BNDD (now DEA) to be able to utilize the CIA's overseas intelligence capabilities.

Colson also believes that the CIA, through DEA, is engaged in "special projects." He mentioned a person who had "mysteriously disappeared," but said he could not discuss it now.

#### Robert Bennett

Colson stated that Bennett took over Mullen & Co. after the 1970 elections but that he has since left and is now working for Howard Hughes. Colson said that every one of Hunt's capers was at Bennett's suggestion. He said there was extensive information about Bennett in the CIA file given to Baker and Ervin.

Under the arrangements, Mullen & Co. reported to a CIA case officer who reported to a man name Eric Istenstead who, according to Colson, is chief of the CIA's central cover staff which sets up private firms as covers for the agency. Istenstead reports directly to the Deputy Director for Plans. According to Colson, we should take a close look at Istenstead since, if there is domestic intelligence activity, it is through Istenstead.

Colson mentioned that when Bennett went before the Watergate grand jury the prosecutors were told not to question him. Colson believes the fix was put in by the CIA, which also picked up half of Bennett's legal fees. According to Colson, Bennett had advance knowledge of the Watergate break-in but was cleared by the CIA 10 days after it had occurred. He also noted that Paul O'Brien got immunity. In other words, Colson was saying, all the CIA types dropped out of sight.

Colson said that Bennett's retainer to Hughes was controlled by the CIA. At Hughes' suggestion, Bennett provided the lawyer for Dita Beard. Bennett proposed to Hunt that Hunt go to Denver to interview Dita. As Colson sees it, Bennett was not so much worried about the Beard memo as he was about certain memos relating to the CIA & ITT. According to Colson, the CIA did a number of illegal things in the United States to further the private interests of ITT as well as for foreign intelligence purposes. Colson said that he could not go into areas which were classified, e.g. the Chilean affair and the use of federal agencies to advance private interests where a commonality of interest existed. Colson (said) that the things the CIA did during Watergate were highly classified and that there were bits and pieces of them in the CIA file given to Baker and Ervin. Colson stated that he could probably summarize the contents of the file after reviewing his notes. He did recall the file mentioned radical activities prior to the convention. Colson said that it has lots of cash which it uses to finance projects by procuring outside people rather than CIA agents. This

is the only way to get things done in these threads.

Colson stated that the Hughes empire and the CIA have a continuing strong relationship. If the CIA wants to do something but does not want its name on it, it turns it over to the Hughes operation. Hughes gets money and the CIA gets put into foreign and domestic intelligence sources. He stated that there was no White House supervision of the CIA. The "Committee of 40" was a joke since Kissinger was running the CIA single-handedly. Apparently Kissinger despised Helms but tolerated him perhaps, as Colson speculates, because Helms had something on Kissinger and Nixon. Colson also said he had told the prosecutors about Angleton some time ago, but that they would not listen to him.

Colson said there is an area of CIA which places CIA types into all sensitive federal agencies. These individuals are not always known to the agencies. Colson said this was different from the DEA situation where there is a separate entity in the CIA working on international narcotics traffic. He said that Krogh would probably be reluctant to discuss the CIA/DEA matter. (Colson mentioned Jeff Donfield and I mention Walt Minnick, both of whom worked for Krogh.)

Colson also said that Ambrose would probably be the type who would set up the CIA in DEA. He also said that there were certain mafia figures who had cordial relations with Ambrose.

Colson also mentioned Pennington who was the one who burned McCord's files after the break-in and who died of a heart attack six months ago. When the FBI queried the CIA about Pennington, the CIA gave the FBI another Pennington thus throwing the FBI off for about a year. Colson also mentioned the fact that Angleton had had contact with Hunt while Hunt was in the White House.

Colson believes both Helms and Cushman perjured themselves before the Senate citing Helms' confirmation hearings for his ambassadorship and his testimony before Baker. He said Helms in his testimony boast of the CIA's intelligence files and that the FBI came to the CIA names because the CIA had a better retrieval system.

The meeting, which began at 2:00 p.m., adjourned at 4:15 p.m. A second meeting was arranged for Monday, January 20, at 10:30 a.m.

## Hunt

The second part of this document concerns an interview with Charles Colson during which he discusses Howard Hunt and his relationship with the CIA after he let Mullen & Co. work for the White House. The quotation that Colson attributes to Harold Geneen, Head of International Telephone & Telegraph, is quite revealing as are the remarks he attributes to Haig about not taking "the establishment" down with the Nixon Administration since, "The CIA was very important." Nixon's obsession with Hunt which Colson makes reference to might be a result of Hunt's alleged participation in the John Kennedy assassination. Afterwards Colson spoke about a Feb. 28, 1973 meeting at the Watergate Hotel between Robert Bennett of Mullen & Co., and Eric Istenstead, Chief of the CIA Central Cover Staff. According to Colson, Bennett said, "I will take care of Ervin if you take care of Hunt." It sounded to Senator Baker as if Ervin's and Hunt's assassinations were being planned. Immediately after that he inquired whether Colson had any knowledge of domestic assassination operations. Colson went on to say that the Watergate Committee should look into the death of an Italian named Sarti, who was a major narcotics trafficker shot in Mexico about two years ago.

Colson believed that the D.E.A.'s Special Operations Division headed by

death. Indeed, in an article in the Washington Post, George Cline states that Conein's program was to begin in Mexico where at least one Mexican was recruited as an assassination agent. In exchange for his services the D.E.A. helped him to become a legal resident of the U.S. Cline states that Conein's program did not result in any deaths because it was cancelled before it got started, but Colson's statement about Sarti seems to contradict this.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES  
FROM: PETE KINSEY  
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW OF CHARLES COLSON - JAN. 20, 1975

On January 20, 1975, Senators Weicker and Baker and A.B. Culvahouse, and myself met with Charles Colson at the US Courthouse in Washington, D.C.

As a preliminary matter, Sen. Weicker read back the notes of the interview which he had had with Colson on January 13, 1975. With certain corrections, Colson confirmed their accuracy. Colson indicated that it was Richard Ober—the CIA liaison man to Kissinger—who received packages from Howard Hunt and passed them on to Richard Helms. Colson stated that the impeachment hearings contain certain information related to a "Mr. X" and that there is an affidavit stating that Hunt was bringing Ober packages through May of 1972, which were being passed on to Helms (Bill Gill of ABC News believes that the "Mr. X" is, in fact, Ober). Colson indicated that although he did not know for sure, he believed the packages passed to Ober may have contained tapes. Colson bases his speculation on two things. The first relates to an NBC interview with Bernard Barker: in April of 1972, Barker described being with Hunt during an interview with an individual in Miami who had been with Castro at the time Robert Kennedy was assassinated. Hunt had a tape recorder and when Barker asked Hunt what the tapes were for, Hunt replied that they were for the CIA (Bill Gill said that Hunt replied "taping for the old company"). The second basis for Colson's speculation related to the time when Hunt met with David Shapiro while trying to see Colson to pass on a request for money. When Shapiro would not let Hunt see Colson Hunt said that the White House bette get on the sack, that he had things of Ehrlichman, Krogh, and Young and had tapes. He believed Hunt was into a number of things which Colson was never apprised of.

Colson recounted an occasion when Hunt was complaining about his financial problems and the fact he was having to sell his house in order to pay the medical bills for his sick daughter. The next time he saw Hunt, Hunt told him that his financial problems were taken care of in that Helms had given him \$20,000 in cash.

Colson mentioned Morton Jackson again and the fact that Hunt had his breakfast with Jackson the morning of the Fielding break-in and that the Greenspan capers had been planned in Jackson's home.

On the subject of Lucien Conein Colson stated he had reason to believe that the DEA activities abroad of that type we were interested in were being handled by Conein, e.g. kidnapping, assassination.

Senator Baker queried Colson as to whether he believed Mullen and Co. was CIA property citing the facts that Cad operated out of it. The firm's main clients were Hughes, the Free Cuba Committee and Rotary International. Colson also said that Mullen and Co. hired a people the CIA wanted it to.

Colson noted that the CIA Watergate file mentions that when Bob Bennett made more money to hire a new man, the money was paid by Hughes rather than the CIA.

In response to a question by Senator Weicker, Colson stated that the CIA broke into the Chilean Embassy in the fall of 1971 to install wiretaps. The taps were shut off during the elections but resumed afterward to monitor information relating to trade delegations coming to the U.S. The taps were removed in May of 1973 because the CIA thought Dean knew of their existence. Colson mentioned that in April of 1972, McCord had called the Chilean Embassy to get himself wiretapped.

With respect to the CIA's relationship with ITT, Colson recounted a statement by Geneen where Geneen said that "we're putting our money to work with your boys in Chile." Colson believes that Bennett's interest in Dita Beard was that he thought she might be the source of some ITT-Chile memos which had been leaked at the same time Dita's memo had been leaked.

Colson then began discussing conversations he had had with Nixon in January of 1973 (?)-(4). He said that on January 13, Nixon got very excited over the prospects of CIA involvement in Watergate and instructed Colson to look into the matter. Colson said he met with Haig for over four hours and went over all the evidence. Haig said that if we came down, we should not take the establishment with us—that the CIA was very important. Later, Colson said he talked with Buzardt who told him to stay away from the CIA—that you can't tell where Hughes begins and the CIA ends and that there are some big Republicans involved. Colson said he talked to Nixon twice after that and that Nixon told him to stay out of the matter—that someone in Colson's office was feeding information to the CIA. Colson said that all of his conversations with Nixon had been subpoenaed, but only two were introduced. All the rest were withheld.

Colson said that in his conversations with Nixon, Nixon had an obsession about Hunt. In response to Colson telling Nixon to get out the Watergate story, Nixon kept referring to the trouble with Hunt arising out of Hunt's contacts with Ehrlichman and Colson. This conversation occurred on February 13, 1973. In an earlier conversation on June 20, 1972 when Colson was telling Nixon to expose those involved in Watergate, Nixon told Colson that "they know about Hunt" apparently, as Colson sees it, in an effort to slow Colson down. Colson remarked that the President's obsession about Hunt and his contacts with Ehrlichman and Colson was expressed months before the evidence shows that Nixon had knowledge of the Ellsberg break-in (March 17, 1973).

Colson recounted Bennett's inquiry to him about finding out what Maheau did with the \$50,000 that was supposed to go to Rebozo, and whether or not Maheau had pocketed the money. Colson sent a memo to Dean, which is now in the hands of the prosecutors.

Senator Baker inquired as to whether anyone could have had access to the White House tapes while they were being taped. Colson said it would be possible since Al Wong, who was the Secret Service technical services man at the White House was the one who recommended McCord for a job at CREEP.

Colson told of a February 28, 1973 meeting at the Watergate Hotel between Bennett and Eric Isestead. Bennett said "I will take care of Ervin if you take care of Hunt." A record of this conversation is in the CIA Watergate File.

Senator Baker inquired as to whether Colson had any knowledge of domestic assassination operations. Colson replied that he did not know but that such operations did go on overseas.

Colson said that the CIA had been trying to discredit Andrew St. George—that the agency was afraid of him.

Colson said we should look into the surroundings of the death of an Italian

traveler shot in Mexico about two years ago. Sarti bought his way out of jail and got to Mexico where he was shot. Colson said this case will show the other half of Coneri's operation.

Colson discussed certain private firms either owned by the CIA or used by the CIA. These include:

○Intertel, a private detective firm in Washington owned by Hughes doing work for the CIA.

○Anderson Security Consultants—CIA property

○Morton Jackson's law firm  
There was also mention of the firm of Wagoner and Baroody which came out of the firm of Down and Roosevelt—the latter having definite CIA ties.

Senator Weicker inquired as to whether Pepsico may have CIA ties. Colson said that any firm doing business in the USSR automatically gets connected.

Colson recounted taking Hunt to Ehrlichman's office just after he was hired. Hunt told Colson he needed his "Bona fides" established at the CIA. However, Colson learned later that Hunt had already reported to Howard Osborne at CIA that he was in at the White House. Thus, as Colson sees it, Hunt didn't need his bona fides established but rather needed only to make the tie official.

Colson then began listing the areas we should explore more thoroughly:

○Richard Ober—believes his role was critical and that he would know what was being passed between Hunt and Helms.

○Fritz Kramer and Jay Lovestone—Lovestone ran the CIA projects for the AFL-CIO. Kramer is Kissinger's rabbi (who is somehow connected to Lovestone—this needs further exploration with Colson).

○Clifford Irving Manuscript—Colson said that something in the Irving manuscript threw the White House, Bennett and Hughes into a panic. Hunt and McCord were approached by Hughes' people to steal the manuscript. Hunt and McCord said they would need \$55,000 for the job. Hughes people said "too much", so the job was never pulled off. There was speculation around the table that by the time Hunt and McCord came around with the \$55m figure, Hughes people may have bought off Irving. Colson believes Bill Safire had a copy of the manuscript.

Colson mentioned that Helms had gone out of his way to get Hunt placed in a job. After Hunt went to work at Mullen, he complained that his pay was not comparable to what he had been paid at the CIA. Bennett then raised his salary to a comparable level.

Colson said Hunt's "casing" photos of the Fielding office were processed by the CIA. The photos were given directly to Helms with Fielding's name circled.

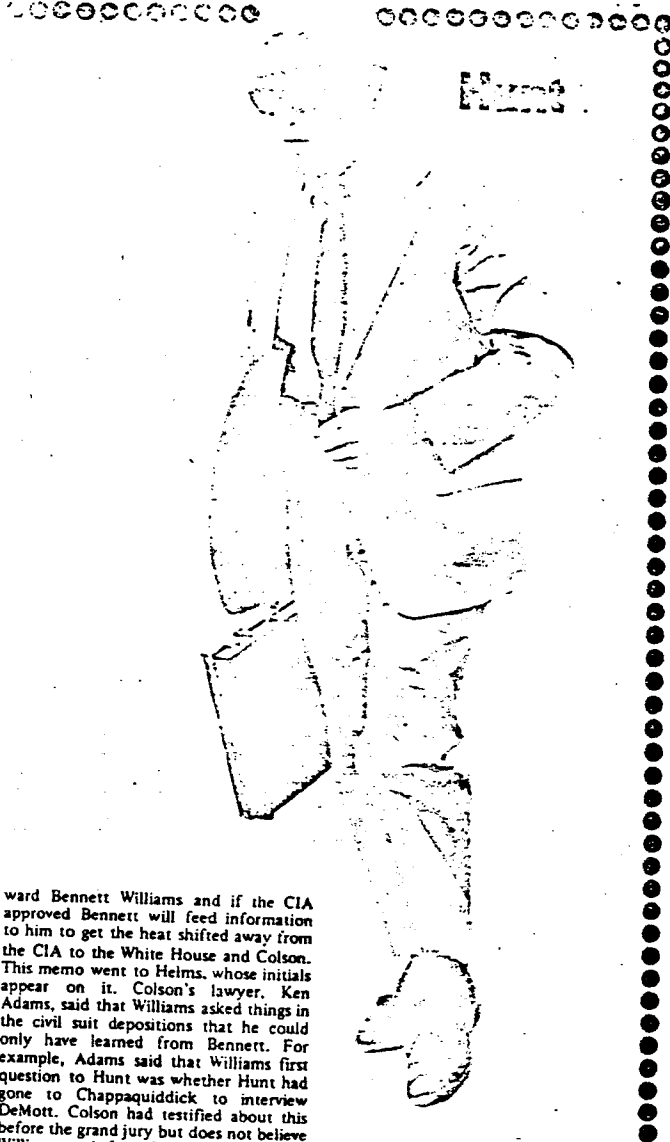
Senator Baker asked Colson if he knew why Hunt had stopped at the Pentagon for two hours prior to leaving from Dulles on the Fielding break-in.

Colson's speculation that Hunt's and the CIA's justification for supplying the wig and other equipment to Hunt was fictitious. Hunt did not need any disguise to interview DeMott since Bennett had suggested Hunt interview DeMott and DeMott was a former employee of Bennett. Colson believes that the CIA used this as a good excuse for furnishing equipment to Hunt.

Senator Baker asked why Spencer Oliver Jr.'s phone had been tapped. Colson said he did not know except that both Larry O'Brien and Oliver Jr. were of the patronage of Maheau.

Colson said he knows that the CIA gave Hunt the name of a lock picker in January 1972, and that the CIA gave Hunt Anderson Security Consultants to use on a security job for Hughes in Las Vegas.

Colson mentioned a July 10 memo from Lakowski (phonetic) of the CIA to file. The memo stated that Bennett said



ward Bennett Williams and if the CIA approved Bennett will feed information to him to get the heat shifted away from the CIA to the White House and Colson. This memo went to Helms, whose initials appear on it. Colson's lawyer, Ken Adams, said that Williams asked things in the civil suit depositions that he could only have learned from Bennett. For example, Adams said that Williams first question to Hunt was whether Hunt had gone to Chappaquiddick to interview DeMott. Colson had testified about this before the grand jury but does not believe Williams got it from Silbert or Glanzer.

Colson referred to a list of Plumbers activities which had been shown to him by the FBI. The memo/list was dated August 31-71 and listed the projects which were being undertaken by the plumbers. One item had been blacked out. At the point Colson's lawyers told the FBI that Colson was a defendant in the case, the FBI withdrew the document and terminated the interview. Colson's lawyer made handwritten notes of the list which he will supply to me.

Sen. Weicker inquired of Colson's knowledge of meetings in Mardian's operation in the Internal Security Division at Justice. Colson believed the CIA was into the operation, particularly pre-convention time—funneling information to Mardian. Colson referred to the July 11 and 12, 1971 San Clemente meetings where Mardian flew out with Dean. Ehrlichman called Colson and told him a special unit was being set up headed by Krogh and that Hunt was to be detailed to it. Krogh brought Liddy into operation. Files show CIA was making information concerning radicals available to Krogh and Mardian.

Colson mentioned the name of A.J. Wellston Smyth (?), who was a friend of Shapiro's and had advance knowledge of the Watergate break-in.

Colson said Senator Hunt...

January of 1974. Hush called Colson and told him that Colby had spent two hours in his office confirming everything. This was during the time of the meetings Colson was having with Haig and Buzhardt.

Colson said he could go through the Helm's testimony at his confirmation hearings and show where he committed perjury.

Colson said he was with Kissinger on June 14, at 8:00 a.m. after the Pentagon Papers broke. Colson said his log's show he was with Kissinger on Tuesday the 15th and he is sure he was with Kissinger on Monday. Colson said Kissinger was going through the ceiling—that Kissinger was almost irrational. Colson feels that there is something more deep and personal to Henry Kissinger than the covers which were blown by the leak. Colson also told of Kissinger's close relationship with Rockefeller and Kissinger's use of Rockefeller's facilities in conducting secret negotiations. Kissinger was consulting Rocky in this area. Colson at this time was conducting domestic negotiations for Kissinger.

The documents which you just read indicate that the Watergate investigation was really quite superficial and many U.S. Government sanctioned crimes