

1/14/72

Dear Larry,

Further refs to you 1/11: Wecht has no use for Garrison, with good personal reason. I had arranged for him to be their chief technical expert on the medical evidence, he went there and conferred with them, and they let him hang, switching to my second choice, a nut named Nichols, an arrogant, egocentric man who antagonized everyone at the trial.

On the Hoffa-Sheridan-Partin Moore matter, I have had some interest and done some (wasted) work. I have no doubt Hoffa did bad things. I have no doubt that what Bobby did was worse. Sheridan was then his rascal. He was in N.O. at the time give and for the purpose of getting Garrison, he aired obvious libel, he did try and bribe witnesses, and when it was all over, it was then arranged for a WDSU staffer who helped, Rick Towley, to take the rap if it were not possible to keep this from trial. With all of NBC's heft plus that of DJ, it was arranged in federal court.

During the course of this I got a six-hour long detailed and in some ways emotional interview with one of the finks Sheridan was using. I taped it, openly, and gave Garrison's office the tape. It hasn't been seen since and once I discovered that I never gave them another tape, although I permitted the dubbing of a very few or made some dubs for them. This guy is one of a pair Sheridan then fixed up with Partin in Baton Rouge, using the device of an arranged arrest of the second (Dave Ferris's protege and godson, a real rar on everything, including hard stuff, and a thug), after they had gotten employment as "investigators" with the (also bad) State legislative committee on the other side. It was an awful stinking mess. I regret the "disappearance" of the tape because I was able to get independent confirmation of parts from the two other people involved in arranging the initial contact with Sheridan, one a former reporter who has his own ad agency today (a period of divorce and alcoholism intervening), the other a woman born of a Chicago newspaper family who was not available when last I was in N.O. (late 11/71).

Partin did confess the entire thing, and what is in the papers is, in essence at least, I think true. I have a copy of not an affidavit but a deposition Partin agreed to and then didn't sign, also, I think as a means of leaning on the government. The government was keeping Bobby's deal under Nixon, but a federal judge wouldn't stand for it. You can't tell the kind of Chicago's worst type Partin really is from your morgue, and Bobby, working really through Epstein (where Bud has the info I don't), did give him the promise of total immunity in return for the Hoffa testimony I think was really framed. I do have a Partin file but have forgotten its contents.

To give you an idea of how Sheridan operated with NBC, he went into criminal court in N.O. knowing the use of recording devices, cameras, etc, was banned, wired for sound, got caught and because of the NBC heft got away with it. The (anti-Garrison) sheriff would not tangle with NBC, esp. because he knew Uncle Sam was behind Sheridan. I suspect this was Sheridan's S.O.P. and that when he visited me at my old place he was so wired and had a sound-activated tape recorder connected to an FM receiver in the trunk of his car. He also arranged for Towley to take me to dinner at, of all places and by seeming happenstance, exactly the place in which he was, for which purpose Towley arranged for us to be delayed and delayed and delayed until we could get there when Sheridan was. I suppose the purpose was so that Sheridan could authenticate the fact that Towley was with me hence by indirection anything Towley attributed to me.

Gervais was also involved in the Chicago proceedings, something your clips do not reflect. He also was with Strato, who apparently could not be more misnamed! There also seem to have been some efforts to do something to Long because I took some stuff of that nature to him in late winter past. I can't connect the two and didn't try, but I have little doubt there was a frame of Long being worked on.

Hastily,

Associate Of Hoffa Testifies He Paid Bills For A Judge

By Max Sonderby

An associate of imprisoned James R. Hoffa told in U.S. District Court on Monday of paying hotel bills, dinner tabs and transportation costs for a New Orleans judge.

The witness, Zachary A. Strate Jr., also described a cocktail lounge tete-a-tete with Walter Sheridan, former special consultant to Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.).

Attorneys for Hoffa, teamsters union president, charged that Kennedy, as a U.S. general, directed an all-out crusade to put their client in prison.

June 17 Talk

Hoffa, Strate and four associates now are appealing 1964 fraud convictions on the ground that illegal electronics eavesdropping evidence was used against them.

Strate told of a talk he had

U.S.

of modeling jobs. Her skinny body and sensuous face landed in about every American fashion magazine on her first trip here earlier this year.

with New Orleans Criminal Court Judge Malcolm O'Hara in the bar of the Bourbon-Orleans Motel last June 17. He described the judge as "a very close friend of mine for 16 years."

At the meeting, the witness said, was Edward Baldwin, political foe of controversial New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jun Garrison, author of charges a conspiracy led to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

At the time, the testimony before Judge Richard B. Austin showed, Strate was attempting to trade information against Garrison for evidence of wiretapping by Kennedy's agents in the Hoffa case.

'In The Same Room'

Donald Page Moore, special government attorney, on cross-examination, went into the matter of expenses paid for the judge by Strate on a trip to Washington four months ago.

"I probably did pay his fare and hotel bill," the witness said. "We were in the same room."

Q. Did O'Hara know you were a convicted felon?

A. Yes, and I think he was

Turn to Page 17

Hoffa Associate Testifies He Paid Bills For Judge

Continued from Page 3

proud to be with me. He acted like it.

Moore then brought out that Strate, a New Orleans building contractor, paid the judge's expenses on perhaps 10 trips, including

Strate also testified that Judge O'Hara at Edward Grady Partin, New Orleans teamster local official, to sign an affidavit on Hoffa's behalf in a Tennessee case.

The affidavit, which Partin refused to sign, charged the government with using wiretap evidence against Hoffa in Tennessee.

Hunt For Evidence

Strate quoted Judge O'Hara as having said that Sheridan, as an investigative reporter for the National Broadcasting Co., was looking for evidence to

discredit Garrison in the President Kennedy matter.

Q. Did Sheridan say to you, "Before you go any further, what do you want from me?"

A. He may have.

Q. Did you say, "Get Hoffa out of jail—you guys won the war (by convicting Hoffa) so help us."

A. I would have said that. It was in my mind.

Q. When he asked how, did you say, "By giving us evidence of wiretapping?"

The question went unanswered, but Strate later testified:

"The impression he (Sheridan) made on me was that he was willing to help me in Chicago if I would help him in New Orleans."

A.

Bare role by Sen. Long in bid to clear Hoffa

By Laurence Stern

Washington Post Special

WASHINGTON — Sen.

Russell B. Long (D-La.), warned two Justice Department officials they risked indictment in Louisiana if they persisted in a federal investigation of efforts to upset the conviction of Teamster President James R. Hoffa.

Confidential memoranda on file with the Justice Department, it was learned, asserted that Long directed the warnings at former Asst. Atty. Gen. Fred M. Vinson Jr., who then headed the criminal division, and Michael Epstein, a staff attorney.

In a telephone interview Tuesday Long said: "It's something of that sort was said, it was not said in seriousness."

According to the memoranda, Long warned both men in phone calls from Capitol Hill and at a joint meeting in his Senate office that they would be indicted by a state grand jury in New Orleans if they continued a 1967 government investigation in the Hoffa case.

The federal inquiry, centered on teamster-inspired efforts to generate new testimony that here had been illegal wiretapping by the government in Hoffa's 1964 Chattanooga trial. The target of these efforts was

key anti-Hoffa witness E. Grady Partin, boss of Teamster Local 5 in Baton Rouge.

Long's warnings were delivered in mid-July, 1967, two days after his former staff aide and high school chum, James H. (Buddy) Gill, was subpoenaed by Epstein to appear before a federal grand jury in New Orleans.

Long also charged Tuesday that Justice Department officials—including Vinson and Epstein—had exerted constant pressure to prevent Partin from being prosecuted for actions since the Hoffa conviction. Neither Vinson nor Epstein had any records of the in-

tercession show, however, that in August of 1968, Long issued another warning to Vinson when FBI men began interviewing top Louisiana state officials about another suspected effort to punish Partin for his anti-Hoffa testimony.

No indictments resulted from either federal investigation. But the approach to Partin by Gill and New Orleans Criminal Court Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara from the bench for gross misconduct.

Partin was indicted by a federal grand jury in 1962 on charges of embezzling about \$1,300 in union funds. He then turned informer for the Justice Department when Robert F. Kennedy, SUN

of Hoffa, along with six other teamster functionaries, at Chattanooga—where the trial was transferred—in 1964.

It was Partin's testimony that caused Gill, Long's former aide, and Judge O'Hara to meet privately with Partin at Gill's office in Baton Rouge in 1967.

The purpose of that meeting, court testimony revealed, was to get Partin to sign an affidavit asserting that the government used illegal wiretapping in the Chattanooga case.

Judge O'Hara later testified that he was merely acting as a "messenger boy" for New Orleans contractor Zachary A. Strate, who was convicted in Chicago in 1964 with Hoffa and teamster associates of mail fraud and conspiracy. O'Hara and Gill said they did not read the affidavit, which was drafted by Harold Brown, a teamster attorney in the Chattanooga case. Partin refused to sign.

Israelis raid inside Egypt

Continued from Page 2

and the pilot parachuted into the gulf. He was listed as missing.

Asked whether the Israeli air force used its newly acquired Phantom F4 fighter-bomber supplied by the United States, the staff officer replied: "All kinds of planes were used."

Later the chief of air force operations, Lt. Gen. Mordechai Hod, said all types of aircraft "except for the Phantoms" were used on the raid.

A military communique from Cairo at first made no mention of any Israeli landing, reporting only that Israeli warplanes had attempted to raid Egyptian territory at intervals Tuesday morning.

Radio Cairo later broadcast a communique saying an Israeli amphibious force tried to land on the western shore of the gulf at 10 a.m. It said the Israelis were "forced to turn tail" after suffering heavy losses of men and equipment.

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Prosecutor's Charges at Hoffa Trial Answered by Defense Accusations

BY MICHAEL LOTTMAN

Charges are being meted in both directions in the \$25,000,000 fraud charged by Teamster President James R. Hoffa.

Special government prosecutor Charles Z. Smith said in his opening statement Monday that Hoffa and another defendant, Benjamin Dranow, devised an intricate scheme to "extricate" Hoffa from his involvement in a Florida real estate deal.

In the end, Smith charged, Hoffa and seven others fraudulently obtained more than \$25,000,000 in loans from the Teamsters' Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund, and diverted \$1,700,000 for their own uses.

Some \$280,000, Smith added, was used to free funds from Hoffa's Truck Drivers Local 299 (Detroit) that were being held by the Florida National Bank in Orlando, Fla., to secure loans made to a de-



JAMES HOFFA



BENJAMIN DRANOW

velopment firm in which Hoffa had an interest.

HOFFA'S attorneys responded with charges of their own.

They said the indictment and Smith's opening statement were made up of "generalities," and they denied the existence of any scheme to defraud the rich Teamster pension fund, valued at more than \$213,000,000, when the charges were brought last June.

Then they turned their fire on the 15 deputy U.S. marshals assigned to maintain order at the Hoffa trial.

After deputy marshal Jesse Dale Jordan, from Indianapolis, said jurors in the case would be taken bowling, swimming, golfing and to movies to relieve their confinement, defense attorney Frank Ragano said this was "fraternizing in the worst sense."

In March, Hoffa's attorneys charged deputy marshals with influencing the jury in Chattanooga, Tenn., that convicted Hoffa of jury-tampering. Hoffa is currently appealing an

eight-year sentence on that conviction.

Defense attorneys then drew from Jordan an admission that "one, possibly two" of the deputies on duty at the Chattanooga trial were assigned here, and demanded that those deputies be sent home.

AT THE END of the stormy Monday session, U. S. District Judge Richard B. Austin ordered court opened at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, 45 minutes earlier than usual, as "compensation" for the attorneys' "having wasted this time" with objections to trial procedures.

Judge Austin is expected to be the only federal judge holding court Tuesday in Illinois, Indiana or Wisconsin. All other courts in the 7th federal circuit will be closed for a conference of judges and lawyers in Chicago.

SMITH DELIVERED the government's opening statement in the absence of his colleague, Abraham Poretz, who was in New York for the funeral of his brother.

He said Hoffa, 50, and Dranow, 56 devised the multimillion-dollar scheme in mid-1958 after Hoffa came under pressure from a court-appointed board of monitors and the Senate Rackets Committee for his part in Sun Valley Inc., a real estate firm undergoing bankruptcy proceedings in Florida and Michigan.

Smith said Dranow, "a man of considerable talents," then began to contact persons seeking mortgage loans, telling

them he had "ready access" to the pension fund through Hoffa.

Dranow, a former Minneapolis businessman, is currently serving a federal prison term on a fraud conviction.

ALSO ABOUT this time, Smith said, another defendant, S. George Burris, 67, and others created the Union Land & Home Corp., which was formed to purchase the failing Sun Valley firm.

Smith charged that Hoffa used his position as international president of the Teamsters and a trustee of the Chicago-based pension fund to secure approval of loan applications submitted by his co-defendants and persons contacted by them.

Burris, a New York accountant, and his son, Herbert R. Burris, 42, an attorney, became "specialists" in the preparation of loan applications, Smith alleged.

HOFFA AND other defendants received "large sums of money" for obtaining loans for other persons, Smith said. Sometimes, he said, they were given "bags of cash."

ATTORNEY Richard E. Gorman, representing the Burrises, said his clients "made no representation which did not comply with ordinary good accounting practices." He denied that they were in a "favored" position to have loan applications approved.

Speaking for defendant Calvin Kovens, 40, of Miami Beach, attorney Charles A. Bellows pointed to his client's "great reputation as a builder" and Kovens' selection as "Man of the Year" for the United Fund of Greater Miami.

Other defense attorneys also denied all charges in the indictment. Also on trial are Samuel Hyman, a Key West (Fla.) real estate operator; Abe I. Weinblatt, a retired furrier and associate of Dranow, and Zachary A. Strass Jr., a New Orleans builder.

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Baker Quiz

Appraiser Tells Hoffa Jury Of Effort To Raise Estimate

By D. J. R. Bruckner

A real estate appraiser testified Tuesday at the James Hoffa fraud trial that Benjamin Dranow tried to persuade him to raise an estimate on properties of a Key West (Fla.) businessman applying for a Teamsters Pension Fund loan in 1960.

Morris A. Lieberman, secretary and chief appraiser for the Real Estate Research Corp., 73 W. Monroe, said Dranow's efforts were made on behalf of Samuel Hyman. Dranow is a former Minneapolis businessman charged as mastermind of the alleged fraud.

Dranow, Hyman, teamster President James R. Hoffa and five others are on trial in U.S. District Court on charges of having fraudulently obtained \$25,000,000 in loans from the fund and diverting \$1,700,000 to their own uses.

3 Sites Appraised

Lieberman told the jury he appraised three pieces of Key West property that belonged to Hyman after Hyman applied for a loan.

He said he met Dranow in December, 1960, at the Eden Roc Hotel in Miami Beach, in a suite occupied by the pension fund lawyer, Stanford Clinton.

"At first Dranow told me my appraisal was too low," he said.

Dranow's protests became "so vehement," Lieberman said, that his wife and Clinton's wife were asked to leave the room, and then Dranow went on protesting. Lieberman's appraisal would not have supported the amount of the loan requested by Hyman.

Calls From Hoffa

The government indictment charges that some of the money lent to Hyman for improvements on various hotels, apartments and a restaurant went to the personal uses of Hyman and other defendants.

Lieberman also testified that he received personal telephone calls in January, 1960, from Hoffa concerning loans to the Fountainsbleau Motor Hotel in New Orleans and the Good Samaritan Hospital in North Miami, Fla. The government contends the loans were inflated on these two projects and money from them was diverted to the defendants.

talked with him about a determination that the Fountainsbleau did not have enough money to justify the loan that defendant Zachary A. Strate Jr. wanted for the motel.

"Hoffa said an additional \$150,000 in cash would be in the trust within 60 days," the memorandum said. Lieberman said he considered the matter important and dictated the memorandum for his own file.

Tells Of Objection

He also testified that in 1960 he had objected to plans for the building of Good Samaritan Hospital. Lieberman said he talked to Miami builder Calvin Kovens, a defendant in the case, and told him his plans for the hospital were deficient and did not carry out the standards of good hospital construction.

Kovens later changed the plans, he said, before the pension fund loan for the hospital was approved. The government charges part of the hospital loan was assigned to building an additional floor, which never was built.

Documents Identified

Lieberman, whose company is one of the largest appraisal organizations in the country, identified dozens of documents, including letters and notations of telephone calls specifically relating to four of the 27 fraud counts in the indictment.

He said he attends all meetings of the fund trustees, but the trustees determine the amount of loans to be given regardless of his appraisals.

Clinton testified that a number of documents concerning fund transactions with key defendant S. George Burris were

May Snows In Japan

NIKKO, Japan (UPI)—A snowstorm caught thousands of tourists unprepared at this internationally known vacation spot north of Tokyo Tuesday.

"lost or mislaid" either at the fund offices, 29 E. Madison, or in his own office, 111 W. Monroe.

The revelation came when the government introduced a number of photostatic copies as evidence.

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PRICES

Big Fee To Get Teamster Loan Told

By D. J. R. Bruckner

A Florida real-estate developer testified Friday



VAUGHN B. CONNELLY

testified he paid \$300,000 in "under-the-table commissions" to two associates of teamsters' union chief James R. Hoffa to get a \$3,300,000 loan from the teamsters' pension fund.

Vaughn B. Connelly told a jury in U.S. District Court he made the payments. "In varying forms," to Benjamin Dranow and Calvin Kovens, defendants in the fraud trial along with Hoffa and five others.

He said part of the payments went to Dranow through bank notes that Dranow had discovered, that some went to Kovens, and that \$3,000 went to a Washington woman, Sally Huchs, whom Connelly contacted with Hoffa and Dranow.

Paid For Vacations, He Says
The \$3,000 to Miss Huchs was for a Hawaii vacation, Connelly said, and was paid to her at Dranow's request. "Dranow thanked me for it," he added.

Connelly was the first witness at the trial who personally identified all eight defendants. He identified Dranow under four different names, saying the former Minneapolis businessman was first introduced to him as "Mr. Grossman" and later used the names "Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Morris" at various times.

He described Dranow, who is now serving federal prison sentence for mail fraud and

tax evasion, as "very close" to Hoffa and the man who made all arrangements for the loan from the teamsters' pension fund.

Reason Alleged

The government contends that the alleged fraud plot was hatched in 1958 to make money available to bail Hoffa out of an abortive land-development scheme at Sun Valley, Fla. It charged, in 27 fraud counts and one of conspiracy, that the eight men fraudulently obtained \$25,000,000 from the pension trust, with officers at 29 E. Madison, and diverted \$1,700,000 to their own uses.

Connelly said he had contracted with the Cal Kovens Construction Co. in 1957 for extensive remodeling of his Everglades Hotel in Miami Beach. The work was to cost \$700,000.

When he had difficulty finding the needed money for the work, Connelly said, Kovens suggested "he could get me a teamster loan."

Introduced To Dranow

Kovens then introduced him to Dranow (then called Grossman), he testified, and Dranow in turn introduced him to New York accountant S. George Burris, another defendant. Burris instructed him, Connelly said, on how to make out the loan applications.

The government describes Burris and his son Herbert, another defendant, as experts in loan applications to the pension fund.

Originally he had planned to ask for \$2,500,000 maximum, Connelly said, but Dranow "informed me there would be a 10 per cent commission, I said this was steep and I

could not do it. He then told me to raise the loan to \$3,300,000, which would give him a \$300,000 commission and, besides, the trustees (of the fund) would probably knock down the figure a little."

Hoffa Talks Gained

Between the time of the application, in September, 1958, and the time the loan was granted, in January, 1959, Connelly said he talked a number of times "with the boss, the wheel, Mr. H (Hoffa)," and that Hoffa assured him, he would try to rush the loan.

A copy of the loan application was sent to Miss Huchs "for Hoffa," Connelly said.

When there was a delay in getting letters of assurance on the loan, in November, 1958, Connelly testified, "Dranow told me he had a bank connection and could get notes discounted."

Connelly said he gave Dranow four notes for \$25,000 each in November of that year and Dranow had them discounted. Some of the money was used to pay construction bills, he added. He said Dranow received the proceeds from the discounting of the notes.

Next Request Reported

Dranow's next request for money came in December, the developer said, when Dranow asked him to give the \$3,000 to Miss Huchs for her vacation. He said the woman was at one time chief telephone operator of the Woodner Hotel in Washington and was living in the hotel at the time he sent her the money.

Connelly said Dranow was "mysterious" in his connections with the pension fund and "said he did not want to be seen" at the fund headquarters when Connelly appeared before a grand jury of the United States District Court in Miami on Dec. 4, 1958.

"I met Hoffa at the former Houdy, along with George Burris and (Zachary) Red Stratig," Connelly said. Stratig, a New Orleans builder, is another defendant in the case.

Calls At Hotel Cited

By the time the \$3,300,000 loan from the fund was granted, Connelly said, "Dranow had begun to call on our hotel (the Everglades). He was there almost every day."

Connelly's testimony about the remaining "commissions," which he described as "under-the-table payments to Kovens and Dranow for the loan," was interrupted when government prosecutors stopped to introduce thousands of checks and records into evidence.

Judge Richard B. Austin ordered Connelly to appear again Monday for further testimony about the \$3,300,000 loan and another \$1,000,000 loan obtained from the pension fund later in 1958.



HAYMARKET RIOT INJURED

Memorial service is held at statue commemorating the nine Chicago Haymarket Riot, May 4, 1886. Addressing the group is lawyer, captain father was injured when bomb exploded in crowd at Police were attempting to disperse crowd of anarchists. Observer here. (Sun-Times Photo by Gene Pesch)

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MELEKH PLEADS UN Immunity On Spy Charge

By Fletcher Martin

Igor Y. Melekh sought im-
munity from prosecution on a
charge of attempting to obtain
aerial photographs of military
installations in Chicago.

The Russian citizen's lawyers,
Donald Page Moore, of 105 W.
Adams, and Edward Bennett
Williams, of Washington, D.C.,
filed eight motions in U.S. Dis-
trict Court Wednesday in an at-
tempt to have Melekh freed of
the espionage charge.

First they said the U.S. Dis-
trict Court here has no jurisdic-
tion. Then, they contended that
if the federal government per-
sists in its charges, the matter
is only within the jurisdiction
of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dismissal Asked

The lawyers argued that the
indictment naming Melekh and
a German medical illustrator,
Willie Hirsch, 52, should be
dismissed. They said Melekh is
entitled to immunity under pro-
visions of the United Nations
Charter and international law.

The espionage case, the first
such case to be scheduled in
Chicago since 1918, is docketed
for U.S. District Court Judge
Edwin A. Robson. It is to be
heard in early March, accord-
ing to Asst. U.S. Atty. Albert
F. Manion, the prosecutor.

The defense argued, in mov-
ing for immunity, that Melekh,
as a UN official, was entitled to
it. The attorneys said the UN
Charter made it clear:

"The organization shall en-
joy in the territory of each of
its members such privileges and
immunities as are necessary for
the fulfillment of its purposes."

Had Secretariat Post

Melekh, 47, was chief of the
Russian language section in the
Office of Conference Services
of the United Nations Secre-
tariat. Hirsch worked as a free-
lance artist.

Warrants for their arrest were
issued by a U.S. District Court
in New York based on an in-
dictment voted in October by
a federal grand jury here.
Melekh is free on \$50,000 bond
and Hirsch is in custody here.

Hirsch was charged individu-
ally with acting as an agent of a
foreign government without
prior notification to the secre-
tary of state. Melekh was ac-
cused of aiding and abetting

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U.S. Denies Publicity Influenced Hoffa Jury

BY HORTON TRAUTMAN

A U.S. attorney has denied
defense charges that publicity
before the 1964 trial of Team-
ster boss James R. Hoffa
made selection of an unbiased
jury impossible.

Donald Page Moore pressed
that U.S. District Court Judge
Richard B. Austin was "ex-
tremely careful" to impress
upon prospective jurors the
"presumption of innocence" of
the defendant.

"If anyone is to blame for
publicity it is the defendant
Hoffa himself," Moore de-
clared Tuesday in the U.S.
Court of Appeals.

HE CITED a lengthy in-
terview Hoffa gave to the
press just prior to the trial.
Hoffa was convicted with
six others of a scheme to di-
vert more than \$1,000,000
from the Teamster Union pen-
sion fund to their own use.

Moore said that a clipping
displayed by the jury foreman
during the trial — and re-
ferred to by the defense Tues-

day — "has been blown out
of proportion."

"There is not one prejudi-
cial word contained in that
clipping," he said. "If any-
thing, the clipping is favorable
defense."

Maurice J. Walsh, attorney
for Hoffa, charged Tuesday
that widespread publicity about
Hoffa's previous conviction
for jury tampering in Tennes-
see and about his feud with
them U.S. Atty. Gen. Robert
F. Kennedy made it impossi-
ble to select an impartial jury.

Walsh said the "viciousness
of the publicity" exceeded
even that of the sensational
1954 trial of Ohio osteopath
Dr. Samuel Sheppard.

ARGUMENTS BY defense
and prosecution ended Tues-
day and the appeal was taken
under advisement by presid-
ing Judge F. Ryan Duffy and
two other appeals judges. La-
tham Castle and Luther Swy-
gert.

A key element in the ap-
peal is the contention that jur-
ors were swayed in favor of
federal government prosecu-
tors by being quartered at the
Great Lakes Naval Training

Center during the 13-week
trial. They were given use of
the base's recreational facili-
ties, the defense charged.

Moore pointed out in his
argument that some 400 pros-
pective jurors were inter-
viewed for the trial and that
admonitions to them fill 300
pages of transcript.

He said that Walsh had in-
quired of the jurors finally
selected whether they had
ever heard of Hoffa.

THE TEAMSTER official
was sentenced by Judge Aus-
tin to five years in prison and
fined \$5,000.

Others who were sentenced
and fined are: Benjamin Dra-
now, 55, of Minneapolis, now
serving a federal prison term
for tax and mail fraud; Zach-
ary Strate Jr., a New Orleans
real estate dealer; Calvin Ko-
vens, 39, a Miami Beach real
estate dealer; George Burris,
65, a New York City account-
ant; Abe Weinblatt, 67, and
Samuel Hyman, 69, both Mi-
ami Beach real estate dealers.

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DAILY NEWS
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Hoffa Loses War With R. F. Kennedy, U.S. Aide Says

By Ray Brennan

James R. Hoffa has lost not only another battle but also his 10-year-war against Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.), a Justice Department official said Wednesday.

The statement came as Hoffa was returned in handcuffs to the **SUN-TIMES** at Lewisburg, Pa., to resume serving a 30-year term.

Aug. 24, 1967

His latest defeat hit Hoffa Tuesday when U.S. District Court Judge Richard B. Austin denied his motion to reverse a 1964 Chicago conviction for fraud and conspiracy. Austin ruled 11 defense attorneys had filled utterly to

uphold their charges that the government used illegal evidence at the trial. "In the opinion of the court, no tainted evidence appeared or was introduced," said Austin, who presided at the trial. Donald Page (Moore), special government attorney, declared the judge's words applied to a Tennessee jury-lampering conviction of Hoffa, as well as to the Chicago case.

"These cases are completely clean," Moore said when reached at the Justice Department in Washington. "They couldn't beat the one in Chicago, and they can't beat the one in Tennessee. "They (the 11 attorneys) went on a desperate fishing expedition, and they came up with nothing." Defense attorneys headed by Maurice J. Walsh had predicted before the Austin hearing that they would win easily and that a victory over the prior conviction would ensue.

They also charged that Hoffa's troubles as president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters were caused by Kennedy as attorney general and previously as chief counsel for a Senate anti-Communist committee. Walsh said the Austin decision would be appealed and predicted an "instant reversal" in a higher court. Moore declared the testimony of three defense witnesses at the Chicago appeal hearing to have been "completely beyond belief."

He named the witnesses as New Orleans Criminal Court Judge Malcolm O'Hara, Zachary Strate Jr., a New Orleans business man convicted with Hoffa and five other defendants in 1964, and Harold Jenkins, a Miami private detective.

Judge O'Hara and Strate testified that Walter Sheridan, special consultant to Kennedy as attorney general, offered to make a deal with them in New Orleans earlier this year. Garrison Probe

They said Sheridan wanted evidence to discredit New Orleans District Atty. Jim Garrison's contention that a conspiracy led to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In return, the witness said, Sheridan agreed to help them on the Chicago appeal.

Jenkins testified he tapped Hoffa's telephone in Hoffa's Miami Beach hotel room for 10 days after being hired by an Internal Revenue Service agent identified only as a "Mr. Fetermann."

Moore pointed out that Hoffa's lawyers failed to call either Sheridan or the mysterious IRS agent to support the testimony.

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