

WITNESS SUMMARY -- RICHARD M. HELMS

Helms was a career CIA employee who worked there from its inception in 1947 and became Director on June 30, 1966. He was succeeded by James R. Schlesinger on February 2, 1973. Helms is now Ambassador to Iran.

Helms' testimony appears to be relevant in principally three areas: (1) the furnishing of equipment and support to Howard Hunt during the summer of 1971, some of which Hunt utilized in connection with the burglary of Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatrist; (2) the preparation in the summer and fall of 1971 of a psychological profile of Dr. Ellsberg at the instance of David Young; and (3) his participation directly in the meeting on June 23, 1972 with Ehrlichman, Haldeman and Walters and related events.

Sec. (1) On July 7, 1971 General Cushman, Deputy Director of the C.I.A., received a call from John Ehrlichman advising that Howard Hunt, a former C.I.A. employee, had been added to the Security office of the White House and requesting that Hunt receive assistance from the C.I.A. This information was passed on by Cushman at a C.I.A. morning meeting held on July 8, at which Helms was present. Thereafter on July 22, 1971 Hunt visited Cushman and requested the C.I.A. to furnish him with identification documents and an alias and physical

disguises. Thereafter, on several occasions Hunt met with C.I.A. employees and received alias documentation in the name of Edward Joseph Warren, disguise material, a speech alteration device, a recorder in a typewriter case and a camera in a tobacco pouch. Liddy was also present during a couple of these meetings and received similar disguises and alias documentation in the name of George F. Leonard at Hunt's request. As recalled by Helms, he learned of these arrangements only after the event and learned only that Hunt had received a camera and a recorder.

On August 24, 1971 Hunt delivered to a C.I.A. employee film which he had taken of, among other places, Dr. Lewis Fielding's (Ellsberg's psychiatrist) office.

On August 26, Helms was advised of increasing demands made by Hunt for C.I.A. technical and other assistance, including that he be supplied with a personal secretary then located in Paris. When apprised of these facts by Cushman, Helms tells Cushman that Hunt has gone too far and that Cushman should tell Ehrlichman that no further persistence would be afforded Hunt. Cushman so apprises Ehrlichman on August 27, 1971. On August 30, 1971 Cushman sends a memo to this effect to Helms who wrote, "Good", on the bottom of the memorandum.

date?

only
this
as read?
with 19-
10/24/52?
about
what?
when?
now when
did Helms
learn?
from whom?
what
level?
why delay
4 months #?

with + +
Long
delay!

Following the Watergate break-in on June 17, 1972 the F.B.I. sought information from the C.I.A. relative to equipment and support furnished Hunt. The C.I.A. responded to the F.B.I. in letters dated July 5 and 7 and in a meeting on July 28, 1972. The C.I.A. was asked further questions by Assistant U.S. Attorney Silbert. Attorney General Kleindienst and Assistant Attorney General Petersen reviewed these July 5 and 7 submissions together with additional materials that were furnished to acting F.B.I. Director Gray on October 24, 1972. Additional material was also furnished to Silbert. Another submission was made by the C.I.A. to Petersen on December 21, 1972 and discussed at a meeting with Petersen and Silbert on December 22, 1972.

It should also be noted that in October 1971 Hunt requested of and received from C.I.A. personnel certain monclassified information relative to a 1954 French case involving a document leak. Helms learned of this event in May of 1973.

(2) In the early Summer of 1971 Helms met with David Young, formerly of Dr. Kissinger's staff, who had been assigned to Ehrlichman to look into broad questions of security leaks and declassification of documents. Helms put Young in touch with Howard Osborn, director of Security of the C.I.A., who briefed Young on the subject of leaks and classification.

R!

In mid-July Young called Osborn and said that Kissinger and Ehrlichman were impressed with the C.I.A.'s psychiatric profiles, including one done on Castro, and Young requested on behalf of Kissinger and Ehrlichman that a similar profile be prepared on Ellsberg. Osborn referred the request to Helms who gave his reluctant approval, apparently because of the limited amount of information available on Ellsberg and because Ellsberg was a United States citizen. Young emphasized the importance of the project and the fact that the profile was vital to the Pentagon Papers inquiry.

In late July and early August the staff of the C.I.A. prepared a profile from material provided to Osborn by the White House. Because of the sparse nature of the material, the staff members who prepared the profile had serious reservations with it. On August 11 Osborn, with the approval of Helms, delivered the profile to Young.

Within a day or two Young called Osborn to express dissatisfaction with the profile and provided additional information to the C.I.A., consisting of such things as press clippings, F.B.I. reports and the like.

On August 12, 1971 a meeting was held in Young's office attended by a C.I.A. representative. During at least a portion of this meeting, Hunt and Liddy were present. Young said that the President had been informed of the study and it was to receive the highest priority. Hunt was to provide the C.I.A.

NWSU
 material?
 -IA files
 with give
 to little
 didn't work
 FBI, NSA?

with additional information and requested that his presence at the meeting not be disclosed. However, the C.I.A. official indicated that he would have to tell his immediate superior. It appears, however, that Helms was not personally aware of Hunt's involvement in the Ellsberg profile until approximately May 15, 1973. In August, September, and October, Hunt supplied the C.I.A. with additional material. Nevertheless, the C.I.A. staff was dissatisfied with the quality of the material and Helms at one point complained to Young as to the inadequacy of the information and his concern for the doctor's professional reputation in connection with any study they might prepare. Helms indicated that he did not wish the C.I.A. to be identified with the final product because of his concern. In late October 1971 Young requested that the study be completed and, after it was cleared by Helms, it was forwarded on November 12, 1971.

Helms did not learn of the burglary of Dr. Fielding until May of 1973.

From the information available to this Committee, it appears that none of the individuals who was aware of Hunt's receipt of equipment during the Summer of 1971 was aware of Hunt's involvement in the Ellsberg profile.

According to Helms, the Ellsberg profile was only the second time in the history of the C.I.A. to his knowledge that a psychiatric profile was prepared on an American citizen. The other occasion involved Captain Bucher, the Commander of the Pueblo.

*To whom?
Helms? Why
did Hunt
's ident. try have
to be scrubbed
from Helms?*

*Plural -
shrinks,
psychologists?*

(3) On June 22, 1972 at approximately 5:20 p.m. Helms received a telephone call from Gray concerning possible involvement in the Watergate affair on the part of the C.I.A. Helms told Gray that there was no C.I.A. involvement.

As noted in General Walter's witness summary, Helms read Walters' memorandum of the June 23, 1972 meeting and agreed with it in all respects but one -- there was no explicit reference to the President. Helms prepared no memorandum of his own. Helms was in regular contact with Walters during the time Walters was dealing with Dean and Helms gave encouragement and support to Walters.

On June 27, 1972 at approximately 11:20 a.m. Helms received a telephone call from Gray who asked Helms if the C.I.A. had any interest in Ogarrio and proposed a meeting with Helms and Walters and members of their staffs at 2:30 p.m. on June 28. Helms told Gray that he would get back to him. At approximately 3:40 p.m. on June 27 Helms called Gray back and told Gray that the C.I.A. had no interest in Ogarrio and confirmed June 28 meeting.

On June 28 at approximately 11:20 a.m. Helms receives a telephone call from Gray cancelling the 2:30 meeting. (As noted in the Walters witness summary, the next direct contact between the F.B.I. and C.I.A. was on July 6.)

basis
of Helms
basis
answer?

Why
not?

Reason
for?
Did FBI
believe?
put up to
asking?

It should be noted that in his appearance at an Executive Session of the Foreign Relations Committee on February 7, 1973, Helms stated that the C.I.A. had no involvement in Watergate. Helms explains this as a reference to the burglary since he had no knowledge of any other events.

*Martinez?
Ever asked
of Martinez
what his
plans, plans
- LA?*