

Bugging Suspect Investigated Writer

By Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein 7-27-72
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ANNA CHENNAULT
... cited in memo.

One of the seven men indicted in the bugging of the Democrats' Watergate headquarters investigated syndicated columnist Jack Anderson last spring, according to a confidential memorandum written by the former security chief of President Nixon's re-election committee.

The two-page, undated memo was signed by James W. McCord Jr., one of the men indicted Sept. 15 in the Watergate case and the former Nixon security chief.

The memo does not indicate for whom it was intended.

It is labeled an "interim report" and deals with already

known and generally uncontroversial details about Anderson. It focuses on Anderson's business and social relationship with Anna Chennault, the Chinese-born widow of Gen. Claire Lee Chennault, who commanded the Flying Tigers air squadron in World War II.

Mrs. Chennault is a member of the D.C. Republican Central Committee and the Republican National Finance Committee. She could not be reached for comment on the memo.

A reliable source close to the Watergate investigation See WATERGATE, A8, Col. 1



JACK ANDERSON
... "amateurish"

WATERGATE, From A1

confirmed that McCord was making an inquiry into Anderson's background, and speculated that the Republicans might have been worried that Anderson was using Mrs. Chennault as a news source.

McCord could not be reached for comment on the memo. A spokesman for the Committee for the Re-election of the President said that officials there have "no knowledge" of such a memo.

Informed of the memo yesterday, Anderson called it "amateurish." He said if one of his staff members turned up such trivial details, "I'd have to fire him."

Although the memo is not addressed to anyone, one source close to the Watergate case said yesterday that it probably was intended for E. Howard Hunt Jr., a White House consultant at the time the memo was drafted—probably around March of this year. Hunt also was indicted in the Watergate case.

One of Hunt's tasks at the White House, according to widespread reports, was to investigate leaks to the news media. Hunt was fired from the White House post shortly after his name was linked to the Watergate bugging in late June.

On March 23, Anderson wrote in a column that he was

being investigated by the Republicans. Yesterday, Anderson said he was not surprised at the existence of the McCord memo and asserted that it was probably intended for former Assistant Attorney General Robert C. Mardian.

Mardian, as an assistant attorney general, was in charge of the Justice Department's internal security division until May when he became political coordinator of the President's re-election campaign committee.

Some sources contend that he headed the White House team, which reportedly included Hunt, charged with investigating news leaks. Mardian was out of town yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

A copy of the first page of the McCord memo has been obtained by The Washington Post. Alfred C. Baldwin, the former FBI agent who participated in the Watergate bugging and was granted immunity from prosecution in return for his testimony, is known to have had a copy of the McCord memo at one time.

The memo begins: "A confidential source has alleged that a close social and business relationship has existed, in the past between Anna Chennault and Jack Anderson."

It adds that the two are part owners of the Empress Restau-

rant in downtown Washington and that both helped found the Chinese Refugee Relief Inc. in 1962.

Without attempting to attach any significance to these statements, the memo goes on to point out that Thomas G. (Tommy the Cork) Corcoran, the lawyer-lobbyist and former New Deal adviser, and former Senate aide Robert C. (Bobby) Baker were "founding sponsors" of Chinese Refugee Relief Inc., a group dedicated to assist refugees from China.

The memo promises "more details . . . in another report" on this and other subjects, including Anderson's connection with Hank Greenspun, publisher of the Las Vegas Sun in which Anderson has a small interest.

In addition, the memo claims that Anderson has a "close association with the operating arm of the Democratic Party."

The memo also says another report would give details on the D.C. National Bank, where Mrs. Chennault was elected to the board of directors on June 8 and where Anderson has an account.

Sources for the information are "Capitol Hill" and former Anderson employees, the memo says.

Anderson alleged in the March 23 column that he was being followed and in a telephone interview yesterday

charged that former Assistant Attorney General Mardian was directing "an investigation of me to find out my sources."

Anderson said that earlier this year he received information from his FBI sources that he was being investigated and followed. The sources supplied him with the license tag numbers and description of the cars that would follow him, he said.

"My kids' tracked the cars down in our neighborhood. They said there were men in the cars with binoculars," Anderson said.

He said that he personally confirmed one of the license numbers when he was on the road and stopped at a red traffic light. "They normally follow about three blocks behind, but they came close and I saw the license tag," Anderson said.

Anderson said his sources told him that there was a "huge dossier on me on Mardian's desk." He said that when he asked his FBI sources to let him see his own FBI file, the sources repeatedly said the file was checked out to Mardian.

The columnist said he is "indignant" over the reported investigation of him. "I don't think the President's campaign committee should be investigating newsmen," he said.