

Cushman Says Hunt 'Violated Trust'

7/30/73

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, May 29 —

Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., former deputy director of Central Intelligence, told a Los Angeles grand jury today that E. Howard Hunt Jr. had "violated" his "trust" by involving the C.I.A. in the burglary of the office of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

General Cushman, now commandant of the Marine Corps, was the opening witness before the grand jury, which is investigating the break-in of Dr. Lewis Fielding's office on Sept. 3, 1971. Hunt has admitted having a role in the burglary while acting as a White House consultant.

At a news conference after his testimony today, General Cushman said John D. Ehrlichman, then President Nixon's chief domestic adviser, had called him in July, 1971, and asked him to aid Hunt.

Hunt, General Cushman said, a C.I.A. employe for 20 years, told him that he had a "very

sensitive interview" to conduct, and needed such things as false identification papers and a wig. General Cushman said he had agreed to the requests, but subsequently became suspicious when Hunt began asking for further help including an office and a secretary.

General Cushman said he had then called Mr. Ehrlichman and told him that the agency could no longer aid Hunt, and that he considered the former agent to have "questionable" judgment. Several days later the break-in occurred at Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatrist's in Beverly Hills. *did not provide Ells.*

Asked how he felt after learning about the burglary, General Cushman said, "I certainly think I was put upon" by Hunt. Asked if he felt the same way about Mr. Ehrlichman, the general declined to comment, saying he did not know how much Mr. Ehrlichman knew about Hunt's activities.

When reporters asked Gen-

eral Cushman's reaction to the fact that Hunt had continued to work for the White House after Mr. Ehrlichman had been told that Hunt had questionable judgment, the general said: "I wish they had taken my advice."

In June, 1972, Hunt was involved in the Watergate break-in, for which he was subsequently convicted.

The grand jury investigation here will focus on Mr. Ehrlichman and his former deputy, Egil Krogh Jr. Mr. Ehrlichman had over-all supervision of a group called the "plumbers," including Hunt, who were charged with plugging security leaks. Mr. Krogh was in direct command of the group and has reportedly approved the break-in of the office of Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

The New York Times reported on Sunday that Federal investigators in Washington consid-

ered the break-in here, and subsequent attempts to cover it up, as central to their case against Mr. Ehrlichman and H. R. Haldeman, President Nixon's former chief of staff.

Aides to District Attorney Joseph P. Busch of Los Angeles County do not believe that the two investigations will conflict. One source said today that the Federal inquiry would probably focus on such crimes as obstruction of justice, while the local investigation would confine itself to the break-in, and those who might have planned it.

General Cushman testified today because he will be unavailable when the grand jury hears the rest of the case beginning on June 5. Hunt and his accomplices in the burglary have been granted immunity to testify here. Mr. Ehrlichman, Mr. Krogh, and a former White House counsel, Charles Colson, are other prospective witnesses.