

7-12-72
WASHINGTON
Evening STAR

Trail to a Mr. X Sought in Party Bugging Probe

By DANA BULLEN
Star Staff Writer

Prosecutors investigating the Democratic party headquarters "bugging" here sought today to force a local lawyer to tell a grand jury about a mysterious "Mr. X" in the case.

The lawyer, Douglas Caddy, helped arrange counsel for the five suspects captured inside the party's Watergate suite, but the U. S. Attorney's Office wants to learn who asked Caddy's help.

Chief Judge John J. Sirica of U. S. District Court today also was to hear the government's claim that Caddy has improperly invoked the attorney-client privilege 60 times to block grand jury questions.

In court papers, the prosecutors listed only as "Mr. X" someone they said Caddy has described as a "close personal friend" of missing former White House consultant E. Howard Hunt Jr.

'Personal Friends'

Hunt, an ex-CIA agent hired for the White House job in 1971 on the recommendation of Charles W. Colson, special counsel to President Nixon, has disappeared since the break-in incident.

Although Kenneth W. Clawson, deputy White House director of communications, has described Hunt and Colson as long-time "personal friends," the court papers provided no clue whether Colson could be "Mr. X."

Clawson has denied that Colson was involved in the matter.

Use of the "Mr. X" title in court papers, prosecutors said, was to protect grand jury secrecy and to hide "the identity ... of a person whose connection to the investigation has not been revealed to the public."

Among questions the U. S. Attorney's office wants Caddy to answer are:

- Whether Caddy received a visit or telephone call early June 17, when the break was discovered, from "Mr. X"?
- Who made a half dozen calls to Caddy that night, and

who Caddy himself had called?

- Whether the lawyer might have seen Hunt in the vicinity of the Watergate on June 16 or 17?

The prosecutors maintain that Caddy had misused the attorney-client privilege to conceal facts about the case.

"It (the privilege) was never intended to permit an attorney to envelop in a shroud of secrecy his relationships with whomever he chooses to designate a client," they asserted.

The U. S. Attorney's office claimed that Caddy's refusal to testify has delayed, disrupted and frustrated the grand jury's work. Prosecutors claim none of the questions so far deal with any "communications" between Caddy and anyone he claims as a client.

'Mysteriously' Appeared

Other questions the investigators have put to Caddy, without any answers, include when Caddy last saw or talked to "Mr. X," whether "Mr. X" ever paid Caddy money and who asked Caddy to represent the "bugging" suspects.

Court papers said that Caddy "mysteriously" appeared at a police precinct house after the suspects were arrested. They subsequently were represented by other counsel.

In support of speculation that "Mr. X" is someone new in the case was the fact that the court papers filed by prosecutors mentioned by name Hunt and all five of the persons arrested at the Watergate.

Hunt, who used a desk in the White House offices, assigned to Colson, first was linked to the "bugging" case when his home telephone number and notations "W. House" and "W. H." were found on the suspects.

One of the persons arrested inside Democratic headquarters was James W. McCord Jr., chief security officer for both the Committee for the Re-Election of the President and the GOP national committee.

Both groups also have denied involvement in the incident.