

# COLSON SAYS DEAN MISLED PRESIDENT ABOUT WATERGATE

Tells of Call Last March 21 by Nixon Complaining He Wasn't Getting the Truth

## 'BETRAYAL' IS CHARGED

Humphrey Thinks Incumbent Should Give His Version of the Affair Under Oath

By PHILIP SHABECOFF

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WASHINGTON, July 1 —

Charles W. Colson, the former White House aide, said today that President Nixon had complained to him of not being told the truth about the Watergate scandal even after John W. Dean 3d had supposedly disclosed all the facts to the President.

Interviewed on the Columbia Broadcasting System television program "Face the Nation," Mr. Colson intimated that Mr. Dean lied when he testified before the Senate Watergate committee last week that he had told Mr. Nixon all he knew of the Watergate break-in and cover-up at a meeting with the President March 21.

That was the day Mr. Dean said he told the President that "there was a cancer on the Presidency" and then informed him of all he knew about Watergate.

### Call From Nixon

That evening, Mr. Colson said today, the President phoned him "and said to me that he had to get to the bottom of the Watergate himself, he had to find out the truth, he had to find out what was going on."

"He knew at that point he was not going to tell the truth, that he was being given confusing information," Mr. Colson said.

There were these other de-

velopments today in the Watergate case:

¶The special Watergate prosecutor, Archibald Cox, was reported to be investigating reports that officials of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters had sought contributions to the Nixon re-election campaign from "individuals in the Las Vegas area."

¶Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, said that President Nixon should tell his version of the Watergate affair under oath even though it would cause problems for the separation of powers doctrine.

¶The director of the 1972 Presidential campaign of Senator George McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota, said that President Nixon would still have won the election even if the Democrats had made better use of the Watergate issue.

### Conspiracy Charged

Mr. Colson, who resigned earlier this year as special White House counsel, charged a conspiracy by people who knew the facts of the Watergate scandal not to tell the President anything about it.

"I think at the very center of that conspiracy to keep the truth away from the President was John Dean," Mr. Colson said.

Mr. Nixon, Mr. Colson said, probably does not know yet who ordered the original break-in at the Democratic party's Watergate headquarters.

Mr. Colson, who said he was still serving President Nixon though he is now in private law practice, insisted that when all the evidence was in "it will become clear that the President was absolutely innocent."

He said that he was "appalled" that Mr. Dean should ask for forgiveness for the President because forgiveness really was needed for "Dean's sins of betrayal."

Mr. Colson denied charges made by Mr. Dean last week that Mr. Colson had urged executive clemency for one of the Watergate conspirators, E. Howard Hunt, and that he had ordered a break-in at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

He also denied a report in The New York Times today that he had tried through the Labor

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Department to influence a case involving the teamsters before the National Labor Relations Board and to influence a construction union case in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Mr. Colson did concede that he had tried to block the appointment of a black labor expert, Clayton J. Cotrell, from becoming the Labor Department's regional director in New York.

The latest issue of Time magazine, which is due on newsstands tomorrow, says that Mr. Cox is investigating reports that the teamsters' union used

influence to collect as much as \$600,000 for President Nixon's re-election campaign "from individuals in the Las Vegas area who had received loans from the union's welfare plan."

There have been reports, some of them published, of alleged illegal donations to the Nixon campaign from Las Vegas gambling interests who owed money to the teamsters' pension fund. These reports have not been verified and have been denied by teamster officials.

According to Time, teamster officials said that union leaders friendly to the former teamster president, James R. Hoffa, actively sought campaign funds for the President after Mr. Colson "hinted that, in return for their support, the bars on Hoffa's union activities might be lifted." Time adds that Mr. Colson's spokesman denied that

Mr. Colson had anything to do with teamster fund-raising last year.

A spokesman for Mr. Cox said that no comment could be made about pending investigations. However, it was understood that the teamster's role in President Nixon's campaign financing would inevitably be a subject for investigation by the special prosecutor.

Gary Hart, the director of Senator McGovern's campaign last year, said in an interview with The Associated Press that "We should have pushed harder" to get the Watergate story to the American people before the election.

But even if the Watergate scandal had been spotlighted, he added, once Senator Thomas F. Eagleton of Missouri had to be replaced as the Vice-Presidential candidate, "we might as well have hung up our gloves."

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