

HW: Watergate.

The attached transcript of Howard Hunt's brief interview 11jan73 after he pleaded guilty to all counts against him contains an interesting hesitation and apparent self-correction in referring to his wife's death.

In replying to the first question, he said: "with the unexpected -- the tragic death of my wife just a month ago...."

The hesitation was just enough to convey the impression that he was intent on pointing out the unexpectedness of his wife's death, then had second thoughts and decided to make it tragic too.

The SF Chronicle version of the interview (via the LA Times service) carefully omits "unexpected" and makes it read simply "with the tragic death of my wife just a month ago."

We note also another interesting anomaly in the current stories about Hunt's appearance now, which is invariably described as pale and haggard and usually accompanied by a reference to his wife's death. This does not square with the pictures being printed of him now, most of which appear reasonably chipper, especially if compared with the pictures taken and printed of him last fall when he first surfaced and appeared in court for a hearing. He looks younger now, and if anything less worried than he did last fall.

jdwl2jan73