

Illegal Taps Reported In Kopeczne Case

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Washington — Soon after Mary Jo Kopeczne drowned on Chappaquiddick Island on July 18, 1969, an illegal wiretap was placed on the phone in the Georgetown house where she had lived with three other girls, a source close to the Senate Watergate Committee says.

The wiretap, the source asserted, was installed either by

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or under the direction of John J. Caulfield and Anthony T. Ulasewicz, two former New York policemen who began working for the White House in early 1969.

'On Orders

In his testimony before the Watergate committee in May, Caulfield said that in the first three years of his White House assignment, Ulasewicz, "first on orders from Mr. (John D.) Ehrlichman and later, in some instances, on orders from Mr. John Dean,

under my supervisions, performed a variety of investigative functions."

Ehrlichman was Mr. Nixon's domestic adviser and Dean was the President's counsel at the time.

Miss Kopeczne drowned after the car in which she was riding with Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) plunged off a narrow wooden bridge over a tidal creek about midnight. After a day of sailing, they had earlier attended a cook-out with friends and employees of the senator's at a

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cottage on Chappaquiddick, which is off Edgartown on Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

Columnist Tapped

Miss Kopeczne, who had worked in the office of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-NY), was employed at the time by Matthew Reese associates, a political consulting firm.

She lived with three other girls at 2912 Olive st. in the Georgetown section of Washington. Her housemates were Margaret Carroll, an editor for the National Journal; Nance Lyons, who was on Kennedy's staff, and Carol Littlejohn, an employe of the Office of Education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Dean testified before the committee on June 25, that Caulfield and Ulasewicz, on orders of Ehrlichman, tapped the phone of Joseph Kraft, a columnist, "in late 1969 or early 1970."

In the summer of 1971, after the publication of the Pentagon Papers, Caulfield and Ulasewicz became a part of the "plumbers" security unit set up at the direction of President Nixon to investigate leaks. The unit was headed by Egil Krogh Jr., a former assistant to Ehrlichman, and David R. Young Jr., a former aide to Henry A. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security affairs.

Tells of Suspicions

In an interview yesterday,

Miss Carroll, on being told that the phone had been tapped, said that she had suspected it had been.

She said voices of people to whom she and her housemates talked on the phone "faded," as if the power was being drained, and there were strange "clicks" and "whirring!"

She said for several weeks after the accident a small unmarked delivery truck was parked in the street near the house, and sometimes there were two such trucks.

When, much later, she spoke about this to a person who had a knowledge of surveillance techniques, Miss Carroll said, she was told that if a transmitter had been placed inside the phone, it would have received its power from the telephone circuit and there would be a fading of voices.

Furthermore, the expert said, the signal would be so weak that receiving equipment would have to be located nearby. Such equipment could have been in the truck, the expert said.

Dean told the Watergate committee:

"Mr. Caulfield told me that within six hours of the acci-

dent... he had a friend named Tony on the scene, who remained on the scene conducting a private investigation of the matter and reporting pertinent information back to him... Caulfield told me that Mr. Ulasewicz posed as a newspaper reporter and always asked the most embarrassing questions at any press gathering related to the Chappaquiddick Incident."

Denies Any Knowledge

Cartha D. DeLoach, then deputy director of the FBI, said in a telephone interview that he knew of no authorized tap on the girls' phone.

And Richard G. Kleindienst, former attorney general who was deputy attorney general at the time, said in another telephone interview that if a tap had been placed on the phone, it would have been "illegal" and the person placing it, if known, should be prosecuted.

Dean also testified that during the summer of 1969, Kleindienst "called me into his office and told me that the White House wanted some very important information."

"Mr. Kleindienst instructed me," he said, "to call Mr. DeLoach... and obtain from him information on the foreign travels of Mary Jo Kopeczne. I was told that Mr. DeLoach would be expecting a call from me and once I had the information in hand, I was to give it to Jack Caulfield at the White House."

In response to inquiries about this, DeLoach said: "I recall nothing about any foreign travels of Miss Kopeczne. Mr. Dean most certainly never called me."

Kleindienst said: "I have absolutely no recollection of such a call (to Dean). I never had any curiosity about the foreign travels of Miss Kopeczne."