

# Was there a Mrs. Hunt-psychoanalyst link?

Washington

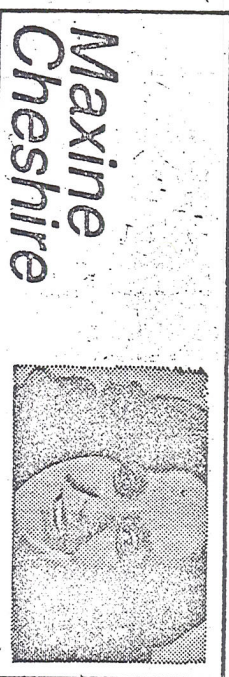
THE PLANE crash that killed Mrs. E. Howard Hunt in Chicago last December now has been officially ruled an accident, but there is one bizarre coincidence that may never be explained.

In her red wallet, at the time of her death, she carried a slip of paper with the name of a suburban Washington psychiatrist, Dr. Gary Morris.

Dr. Morris had vanished under mysterious circumstances, nine months earlier, in March 1972, while vacationing on the island of Saint Lucia in the Caribbean.

He disappeared, along with his wife and an experienced hotel boatman, after setting out on a snorkelling picnic to another island only four minutes away.

NO TRACE was ever found of the 15-foot motorboat or of its three occupants, despite searches by the U. S. and British Coast Guards, and



Maxine Cheshire

a private investigation conducted by relatives.

At that time, three months before the Watergate breakthrough, no one connected with the Morris had ever heard of Dorothy Hunt or her husband. There was nothing then, or later, to link them to Dr. Morris except the discovery of his name in Mrs. Hunt's billfold the following December.

Dr. Morris' records and files now are in the possession of a brother in law, Stuart Knudsen, a builder who lives in Elllicott City, Md. A careful check by Knudsen has failed to turn up anything suggesting that the Hunts had ever consulted Dr.

Morris on a professional basis under their own names.

KNUDSEN DID NOT know until last week about the piece of paper in Mrs. Hunt's billfold.

He already had satisfied himself that there was only one possible explanation for what happened to his sister and her husband.

It was a calm day when the Morris set out with a local waterman, from the Halcyon Beach Club Hotel for Pigeon Island, three miles away.

He reasons their boat, which had no life-saving equipment, may have lost

power en route and drifted out to sea. The party left at 11 a. m. and no rescue effort was launched until 4 p. m.

"IF A STORM had come up, they could have gone down quickly," says Knudsen. "The local authorities told me that had happened once before 10 years ago."

Knudsen conducted his own search and followed one rumor that took him to the coast of Venezuela, where a couple and a boatman had put in for gas that day. It turned out to be someone else.

The Morris, who left three children, were presumed lost at sea. His office, at 4501 Connecticut Av., Washington, was closed.

There were three other psychiatrists sharing that suite. Since learning that Mrs. Hunt was carrying around Dr. Morris' name they have made discreet inquiries of their own. But they have

failed to turn up any link. One possible explanation is that Mrs. Hunt had been referred to Dr. Morris by someone who did not know he was missing.

THIS IS THE theory held by another Washington physician, whose name also appeared in Mrs. Hunt's wallet.

Dr. Marvin Korengold, a neurologist, says Mrs. Hunt never had been a patient of his, either. He did not know Dr. Morris, but learned from other medical sources recently that the psychiatrist had used hypnosis as one of his tools for therapy.

He says: "If Mrs. Hunt, or some member of her family had suffered migraines, for instance, it is conceivable that should have been referred to both a neurologist and a hypnotist. If we could locate Mrs. Hunt's family doctor, he might clear up the mystery, but so far we haven't been able to do so."