

Lie Tests Used Against White House

By Jack Anderson

The lie detector has been a favorite White House weapon. The "plumbers," as the former White House gumshoes were called, used it indiscriminately to search for my sources in a number of cases.

They suspected Navy Yeoman Charles Radford, for example, of leaking White House secrets to me. Without warning, they strapped him into a lie detector and subjected him to cross examination. They gave him four lie-detector tests before they finished with him.

Instead of finding he had slipped documents to me, however, they discovered he had sneaked White House documents to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Other suspected sources were also put through lie-detector tests. But now, ironically, lie detectors are being used against the White House. Two Watergate witnesses, ex-Attorney General Richard Kleindienst and ex-White House aide Charles Colson, have been given lie-detector tests. Gordon Strachan, another former White House aide, also was asked to repeat his statements for a lie detector.

Now the special prosecutors are trying to persuade two of President Nixon's closest associates, his personal secretary,

Rose Mary Woods, and his appointments secretary, Stephen Bull, to submit to lie-detector tests. So far, they have refused. The White House suddenly has become more wary of lie detectors.

Wheat Woes—The threat of outrageous bread prices and even a bread shortage has increased dramatically because of a drought that has hit the wheat-growing belt.

An emergency meeting is being held at the Agriculture Department to assess the damage of the dry spell on wheat in Texas, Oklahoma, and southern Kansas. The region's spring wheat crop was being counted on to ease the shortage expected this summer.

Already, heavy wheat exportation has pushed prices up and dangerously reduced supply. This is because administration economists have relied on agricultural sales abroad to bolster the dollar.

While American bread may be worth its weight in gold by summer, the Arabs will have no problems. Despite the oil embargo, the U.S. is selling large amounts of wheat to the Arab states. So far this year, the Arabs have bought up \$800 million worth of grain.

A cutoff by the U.S. of grain

exports to Arab lands is unlikely, however, since it would only serve to lengthen the oil boycott. America, meanwhile, may be short of both oil and bread.

Easy Riders—While many travelers spend hours trying and often failing to get reservations on crowded trains, their congressmen have no trouble getting help.

Special VIP numbers have thoughtfully been provided to make sure the legislators get their tickets. For example, Amtrak's Washington sales manager recently sent congressmen a letter offering "assistance with regard to your personal rail travel needs."

The itinerant politicians, says the letter, can even call the Amtrak representative at home on evenings and weekends.

Drug Trends—For years, narcotics like heroin have killed young people or led them into robbery in order to support their addiction. But new confidential figures from the Customs Service show that a startling reversal has begun in the last few months.

During the first two-thirds of 1973, 180 pounds of pure heroin were seized. But in the last four months, the figures dribbled off to a mere 27 pounds.

Our federal narcotics informants tell us that the drastic change is not due to agents getting lazier, but to the fact that heroin is no longer youth's drug of choice. Overdose deaths from heroin have also plummeted in big cities.

The new figures show that the trend is upward in high schools and colleges for pep pills, goof balls and "sopors," a drug that has caused many fatalities when washed down with alcohol.

Many of the pills come from Mexico, although the powder for them is often made in Europe. Some 31 million pills were seized in 1973, and almost half of them were grabbed in the last few months of the year.

The Customs figures say that use of hashish and marijuana is also soaring. As a result, narcotics officers all over the country are shifting emphasis away from heroin and into pills and "pot."

Meanwhile, a new opium scare lurks on the horizon. Turkey has threatened to resume growing opium, now banned under a U.S.-Turkish agreement. Much of the traditional U.S. heroin supply has come from Turkey via France or the Caribbean.

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