

Gun, bug, map of Democratic HQ found in desk of White House aide

By PATRICK COLLINS

Federal authorities have seized a fully loaded Spanish-made automatic pistol, diagrams of the Democratic National Committee headquarters and an electronic eavesdropping device from Howard E. Hunt's desk in the Old Executive Office Building next door to the White House, The Washington Daily News learned today.

Sources say the federal officers searched Mr. Hunt's desk, located in the office suite of Charles Colson, special counsel to President Nixon. They found floor plans of the Democratic offices in the Watergate building and what was described as a "partially dismantled bug" similar to the ones taken from five men breaking in the Democratic headquarters, June 17.

Mr. Hunt was first linked to the bugging plot when lawmen discovered his name and phone number in the address books of two of the burglary suspects. Police said that next to his name in one of the books was the notation "W. House," and in the other book Mr. Hunt's name was followed by the inscription "W.H."

After this discovery, the FBI quizzed Mr. Hunt but agents reported that he avoided most of their questions and "shed no light on the investigation."

That was the last communication police are known to have had with Mr. Hunt who broke contacts with his friends and employer here and "disappeared" after he became publicly connected with the burglary suspects.

Mr. Hunt, 54, a writer for the public relations firm of Robert R. Mullen whose offices are diagonally across the street from the White House, had been working as a special consultant to the President on the de-classification of the Pentagon Papers and narcotics law enforcement. He was last reported at the White House on March 29.

Though he had a desk in Mr. Colson's office suite, White House sources said that Mr. Hunt often worked for other officials in the Executive building.

Mr. Colson, described as a behind-the-scenes man for the President, yesterday refused to answer any phone calls concerning the search of Mr. Hunt's desk or the bugging of the Democratic offices.

Another link?

Long after the Bay of Pigs and his work with the CIA, sources said Mr. Hunt continued to support the anti-Castro Cubans exiled in Miami.

Mr. Hunt, author of 42 novels, is listed in Who's Who as a former writer for Life magazine and a contributor to political journals. He owns a \$200,000 estate in the prestigious Potomac area of Montgomery County.

Meanwhile the FBI and local police continue to assemble evidence for the grand jury investigation of the burglary in which the five men, all wearing surgical gloves, were cornered by police in the inner offices of the Democratic headquarters on the sixth floor of the Watergate Office Building at 2600 Virginia av nw.

Police say there is evidence that the men were in the offices to remove "dead bugs" emplaced earlier in the Democratic offices.

Besides Mr. Barker, police have charged: James McCord, an ex-FBI agent and CIA employe who was chief of security for the GOP and the Committee for the Re-Election of the President; Frank Fiorini, a soldier of fortune who fought for Castro and later defected to lead anti-Castro groups in Miami; Eugenio Martinez a wealthy Miami real estate broker, and Virgilio Gonzalez, a locksmith associated with anti-Castro groups.

told The Washington Daily News that the names of former Sen. George Smathers and Rep. Dante Fascell, D-Fla., have been placed on the visiting list of one of the suspects charged with the burglary.

Without their knowledge, Frank Fiorini, added the names of both politician to his visiting list, which would allow them to come and talk to Mr. Fiorini.

But both Sen. Smathers and Rep. Fascell deny ever knowing Mr. Fiorini or ever trying to contact him. "I wouldn't recognize the guy if he walked in the door and stood right in front of my face," Sen. Smathers said.

the planning for the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion where he worked closely with one of the burglary suspects, Bernard Barker, then assigned to coordinate exiled Cubans for the invasion.

Earlier this month, officials say, Mr. Hunt traveled to Miami where he met with Mr. Barker.

Police are actively investigating a burglary of a Federal Reserve office, which some investigators feel may be related to the bugging of the Democratic National Committee.

On May 3, the Federal Reserve office, located on the eighth floor of the Watergate Office Building, were broken into, police said. They said that five locked file cabinets containing plans were jimmed open.

A spokesman for the office said that nothing appeared to be missing and that the papers in the file would not be of any value to someone who might be contemplating the robbery of a Federal Reserve Bank.

In another development yesterday, sources

The two men met in 1966 at the Brown University Club, where Mr. Coles served as president and Mr. Hunt as vice president. Mr. Coles, a White House spokesman said, recommended Mr. Hunt for the consulting job at the White House.

Mr. Hunt, a CIA agent from 1949 to 1979 was hired by the Mullen firm two years ago with endorsements from CIA and ex-CIA of Richard

Heines and conservative communist William F. Buckley.

Five days after the burglary the Mullen Co. "suspended" Mr. Hunt. A spokesman said yesterday that Mr. Hunt had made one long distance call to the office since that time, but "he claimed a right not to tell us where he was."

Mr. Hunt was involved in