

Ellsberg OKs

paper transfer



JAMES KRONFELD
Subcommittee counsel

Some of the papers stolen Oct. 1 from the Mill Valley home of Daniel Ellsberg were handed over to a House subcommittee attorney yesterday by Mill Valley Police Chief William Walsh.

Walsh had been holding the papers, recovered during the investigation of another burglary, because he noticed that some of them were government papers stamped secret.

Both Ellsberg and the federal government claimed them but Walsh refused to give them to either party until ordered by a court or until an agreement for him to do so was reached between Ellsberg and the government.

James Kronfeld, counsel to the House subcommittee on operations and government information, showed up with a subpoena and Walsh handed over five cartons of papers. Ellsberg made no objection. City Attorney George Silvestri Jr. approved the transfer.

Ellsberg presented Walsh with a letter authorizing him to turn over the papers to the government.

"They will be returned to their rightful owner, whoever that is, after they are reviewed by the congressmen," Walsh said.

Ellsberg's attorney, Benjamin Dreyfus, said that Ellsberg had feared the papers might be destroyed by the Justice Department or the Defense Department. He claims that the papers are his and that all but four have been declassified.