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White House

Scolds FBI For Report

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Washington

The White House refused yesterday to explain why a personal lawyer for President Nixon paid a man who had been linked to political sabotage attempts from GOP campaign funds.

At the same time, aidential press secretary said Ziegler deposed a direct rebuke during a hearing director L. Patrick Gray for releasing a report on the Watergate case to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Ziegler said his critical comments on the "crude, raw and unevaluated material from FBI files" were not related to any such story.

But they came only a day after Gray gave the judiciary committee, which is considering his nomination as FBI director, a memo of the FBI's interview of Herbert W. Kalmbach, a Newport Beach contractor, fundraiser and lawyer for Nixon.

HIT

Kalmbach told the FBI last September that he hired Donald H. Segretti of Los Angeles to do "service" for the Republican party; he said he fired Segretti, who has been linked in several

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newspaper reports with political spying and sabotage attempts against Democratic candidates, at the request of Dwight L. Chapin, who recently quit as Mr. Nixon's appointments secretary.

Gray's submission of the interview in reply to a question by Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Mass. marked the first official confirmation of news accounts linking a campaign chairman and a lawyer.

an open administration?" Ziegler: "I guess it is, and in that context I stand by what I've said."

Gray would on his testimony yesterday after five days of questioning, and the committee turned to several other witnesses, most of whom are opposed to Gray.

But Senator John V. Tunney (Dem., Calif.) focusing on Gray's acknowledgment that he turned over FBI files of the Watergate case to White House counsel John W. Dean

Ziegler said during 40 minutes of intense questioning on the subject that he would stand "firmly" on previous White House announcements that dismissed the news stories as "hearsay," "character assassination," "innuendo," "guilt by association."

"I've reviewed the stories," Ziegler said. "I've reviewed the transcripts of what I've said in the past months. I see nothing new, and I have no further comment to offer on it."

He insisted that Gray return and be compelled to testify on his relationship with Dean, the so-called Watergate informant.

Tunney called testimony on the Watergate trial that had been given "deposited" on July 1, 1972, in a matter for the Republican Party, the President's campaign, was "not as convincing as the testimony of the FBI files."

He also called for testimony from Dean, John W. Dean, and other White House officials.

Question—"Was the President aware of Mr. Kalmbach's testimony to the FBI that Dwight Chapin was involved in the dispensing of \$30,000 to Segretti?" (Kalmbach told the FBI he paid Segretti \$30,000 to \$40,000 between Sept. 1, 1971, and March 15, 1972.)

Ziegler: "As I said before, I'm not going to have any comment today on any aspect of the story that ran beyond what I have said before."

Question—"Well, isn't this

campaign director, who was questioned by the FBI last July 20 — the day before Gray testified he sent a memorandum summarizing the Watergate investigation through channels to Dean

Tunney, adding that the FBI questioned Dean on three occasions before Gray sent the memorandum, said Dean's relationship with Liddy should "have totally disqualified him from any participation in this matter at all let alone access to FBI files."

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