

Faked Letter by Nixon Aide

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Washington Post quotes White House press aide Ken W. Clawson as saying that he fabricated a letter accusing Sen. Edmund S. Muskie of a racial slur during Muskie's campaign in the New Hampshire presidential primary.

The letter was one example of a campaign of sabotage conceived by President Nixon's re-election campaign and aimed at Democratic presidential contenders throughout this year's primary elections, the news-

paper said in today's editions.

The Post report also detailed alleged attempts by Donald Herbert Segretti to recruit at least three attorneys to disrupt Democratic campaign activities during the primaries. The Post said Segretti has been identified in FBI reports as "an operative of the Nixon re-election organization."

The letter Clawson allegedly wrote accused Muskie of condoning a racial slur against Americans of French-Canadian descent

during a campaign appearance in Florida.

The letter, to the editor of the Manchester, N.H., Union-Leader was signed by a Paul Morrison of Deerfield Beach, Fla., who has never been located.

Publication of the letter in the Union-Leader, which opposed Muskie, prompted the senator to denounce the newspaper's policies in the now-famous tearful speech in front of the newspaper offices. Muskie's standing in the polls began to decline shortly afterward.

The Post said that Clawson, deputy director of White House communications, told reporter Marilyn Berger in a Sept. 25 conversation that "I wrote the letter."

The newspaper said Clawson, a former Post reporter, was questioned again yesterday and denied that he had admitted writing the letter. "I know nothing about it," he told the Post in the later interview.

Clawson could not be reached for comment last night. A reporter who telephoned his home, was told

He Charged

via the Washington Post board that he had retired for the night and could not be disturbed.

The alleged Segretti in-

volvement was spelled out by three attorneys who said the 30 year old former Treasury Department lawyer solicited their help as

undercover agents for the Nixon campaign, the Post said. All three said they were offered "big jobs" in government if they would cooperate, but all refused, the Post said.

One of the lawyers, Alex B. Shipley, a Democrat and now an assistant attorney general of Tennessee, said Segretti suggested such disruptions as:

"When a rally is sched-

uled at 7 p.m. at a local coliseum by a particular candidate, you call up and represent to the manager that you're the field manager for this candidate and you have some information that some rowdies . . . are going to cause trouble. So you ask him to move the rally up to 9 o'clock—thereby insuring that the place would be padlocked when the candidate showed up at 7."