

Dean Contradicts Nixon Statements

Papers Support President

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Classified papers, taken from the White House in April by former presidential counsel John W. Dean III and released yesterday by the Senate Watergate committee, tend to support President Nixon's May 22 statement that a domestic security plan authorizing wiretapping and break-ins was never formally implemented.

The highly touted documents, including eight memos released in full and the sanitized version of another document, show that plans were formulated for domestic security in 1970, but show no implementation of potentially illegal operations.

The documents show that former White House intelligence aide Thomas C. Hu-

ston and Dean continued to formulate plans for domestic security after July 28, 1970, when Mr. Nixon said the plans were reseeded.

In testimony yesterday before the Watergate committee, Dean said, however, that he knew of no illegal operations that grew from the plans or from the later establishment of an Intelligence Evaluation Committee to coordinate efforts of existing government intelligence agencies, including the FBI, CIA, and Defense Intelligence Agency.

In an interview yesterday, Huston said that he continued to push for implementation of the plan "but it died and it had been stopped July 28, 1970." He also said

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he knew of no operations that grew out of the plan.

The Huston memos to then-White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman show that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had forced the White House to review the plan and delay implementation.

Huston continued to push the plan in memos dated Aug. 5, Aug. 7 and Sept. 10, 1970, but said yesterday that the language in the memos is "optimistic," as if the plan had not been killed in hopes of getting Haldeman's support, which he said he never got.

In a September 18, 1970, "top secret" memo released yesterday, Dean wrote to then Attorney General John N. Mitchell to suggest "procedures to commence our domestic intelligence operation as quickly as possible."

This was about two months after the basic domestic intelligence plan authorizing wiretapping, break-ins, mail cover and development of sources on college campuses had been reseeded.

In the memo Dean said that there should be no "blanket removal of restrictions" on such illegal operations, as there was in the initial, rejected plan. In his testimony yesterday Dean said the memo led to the es-

tablishment of a secret intelligence group, the Intelligence Evaluation Committee. It was the first step in setting up a domestic intelligence operation, Dean said, but he knew of no illegal operations that resulted.

Nevertheless, Senate and Justice Department attorneys are investigating about 25 break-ins and additional surveillance activities to determine if a White House intelligence operation using the techniques of the plan was ever implemented, according to reliable sources.

The break-in and bugging at the Democrats' Watergate headquarters and the burglary of the office of the psychiatrist to former Pentagon Papers defendant Daniel Ellsberg seem to fit the pattern outlined in the intelligence plan.

The Ellsberg burglary was carried out in September, 1971, by a White House intelligence group called the "plumbers," which included E. Howard Hunt Jr. and G. Gordon Liddy, who were later convicted in the Watergate conspiracy.

Another of the documents released yesterday, a memo from Huston to the Internal Revenue Service dated Aug. 14, 1970, asks for a "progressive report on the activities of the compliance divisions in reviewing the operations of ideological organizations."

In a reply, the IRS said that the special service group had referred 26 organizations and 43 individuals for enforcement action, and applications for tax-exempt status has been denied eight organizations in the period of about one year.

The ideological organizations included groups on the political left and right, according to an IRS spokesman.

In a Sept. 21, 1970, memo to Haldeman, Huston complained about the IRS response: "You will note that the report is long on words and short on substance. Nearly 18 months ago, the President indicated a desire for IRS to move against leftist organizations taking advantage of tax shelters. I have been pressing IRS since that time to no avail."

In the Aug. 5, 1970, memo Huston pushed for reconsideration of the domestic intelligence plan by attacking then-FBI Director Hoover:

"At some point, Hoover has to be told who is President. He has become totally unreasonable and his conduct is detrimental to our domestic intelligence operations."

"Hoover can be expected to raise the following points (opposing the plan) in your meeting: 'Our present efforts are adequate.' The answer is bullshit! This is par-

ticularly true with regard to FBI campus coverage."

That memo continues:

"The biggest risk we could take, in my opinion, is to continue to regard the violence on the campus and in the cities as a temporary phenomenon . . . I believe we are talking about the future of this country, for surely domestic violence and disorder threaten the very fabric of our society."

"For eighteen months we have watched people in this government ignore the President's orders, take actions to embarrass him, promote themselves at his expense, and generally make his job more difficult. It makes me fighting mad, and what Hoover is doing here is putting himself above the President."

The Huston memos also say that Attorney General Mitchell joined Hoover in opposing the domestic security plan.

The top secret memos describing the basic intelligence plan were printed June 7 by The New York Times, and later by The Washington Post.

Those documents showed that President Nixon approved the expanded intelligence gathering plan after being warned by Huston that parts of it were "clearly illegal" and involved "serious risks" to his administration if the operations ever became known. Because of

ment on Domestic Security Plan



By James K. W. Atherton—The Washington Post

Sen. Ervin confers with George Murphy of the Atomic Energy Commission, center, as counsel Samuel Dash listens.

Hoover's objections, the plan was only in effect five days, according to the President's May 22 statement.