

Hunt 'Spied On Ted Kennedy'

Washington

E. Howard Hunt Jr., one of the convicted Watergate conspirators, was quoted yesterday as saying he sought and received disguises and other equipment from the Central Intelligence Agency to investigate Senator Edward F. Kennedy (Dem-Mass.).

This was the first indication that the CIA equipment had been sought by Hunt for any activity other than breaking into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

The new disclosure was made by Representative Lucien N. Nedzi (Dme-Mich.) after nine hours of questioning of Hunt by a House Armed Services subcommittee investigating CIA involvement in the Watergate affair.

"Mr. Hunt told us he asked for the CIA equipment in order to interview an individual in connection with Senator Kennedy's activities," Nedzi said.

Nedzi further quoted Hunt as saying he had informed Charles W. Colson, at that time a White House aide, of his desire for CIA equipment for the project "and Colson said he would arrange for it."

Hunt subsequently obtained a wig, a device to alter the voice, a camera, a tape recorder and false identification papers in the name of "Edward Warren" from the CIA and used them in conducting an interview in August, 1971, with a person he identified merely as "Mr. Demott," according to Nedzi. *

He quoted Hunt as saying

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he later used some of the same CIA equipment in breaking into the psychiatrist's office in California; in attempting to talk to Dita Beard about a memorandum she allegedly wrote for the International Telephone and Telegraph Co.; and in the break-in of Democratic national committee headquarters at the Watergate complex.

"But Mr. Hunt made it clear it was the Kennedy matter that prompted his request for CIA disguises and all that," Nedzi said.

This was the second disclosure of White House efforts to investigate activities of Kennedy, a potential candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

SHADOWED

John W. II DerInaoemf r counsel to President Nixon, presented documents this week to the Senate's Watergate committee showing that Kennedy had been shadowed on a trip to Honolulu in 1971.

Nedzi said Hunt told the subcommittee that someone "outside the Nixon administration" had suggested that "Mr. Demott" might have some information "of interest to the Republican campaign committee."

Nedzi declined to identify the person suggesting the interview. However, he said, the implication was that "Mr. Demott" might be able to furnish Hunt with information about the death of Mary Jo Kopechne, who drowned in Kennedy's automobile at Chappaquiddick Island in July, 1969.

PROJECT

Those close to the Watergate investigation have said

a White House project had been set up under Hunt to assemble information about the Kennedys. They said Hunt had talked to a "Clifton Demotta," formerly a resident of Hyannisport, Mass., site of the Kennedy home.

Nedzi said Hunt had interviewed "Mr. Demott" but "found his information useless" and dropped the matter.

Nedzi also said Hunt said that his orders for burglarizing the office of Ellsberg's Psychiatrist in September, 1971, came from Egl Krough Jr., a White House aide in charge of "the plumbers," a team set up to investigate security leaks.

PRINCIPALS

"But he also told us he assumed everything done by the plumbers had been cleared by 'the principals,' whom he named as John N. Mitchell, then attorney general, Dean and Jeb Stuart Magruder," also a former White House aide.

Top CIA officials had disclosed earlier that the agency had given Hunt various equipment and disguises to conduct what Hunt told them was a "one-time interview" on a security matter. Nedzi also said Hunt's testimony seemed to indicate that Charles W. Colson, a former White House aide, might have been involved in some of the activities described by Hunt yesterday.

Colson has maintained that he was not involved in the Watergate events. —

New York Times

* SEE JACK ANDERSON
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