VIP

Magruder's Six-Figure Book

By Maxine Cheshire

Taken off the lucrative lecture circuit by order of Judge John J. Sirica, Watergate defendant Jeb Stuart Magruder has turned to writing his memoirs.

Magruder has signed a six-figure contract with Atheneum for his story. It is being written by a ghost-writer who wants to remain anonymous.

A spokesman for the publisher refused to comment last week on the book. Lawyers for Magruder had hoped to keep the project quiet until it was an accomplished fact, to avoid antagonizing Judge Sirica.

Earlier this month, Judge Sirica ordered Magruder and James W. McCord Jr., to cancel speaking engagements which would have taken them around the country. The jurist said he "did not think it was for (them) to profit by their wrongdoing."

Status Symbol

Although H. R. (Bob) Haldeman is no longer at the White House, one symbol of his former prestige remains.

He is still on the board of trustees at the Kennedy Center. He will remain so, considered "a member in good standing" a spokesman said last week, until the year 1980.

The only way he will vacate the post is to volunteer to resign, the official said. So far, he has not chosen to do so.

Potpourri

Julie Eisenhower, with a husband just starting law school, had the White House ask 20th Century Fox for a print of "The Paper Chase." The film is about freshman law students at Harvard. . . . Virginia Wood, the tall, handsome blonde who accompanied Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to "Macbeth" last week, looks a little like Nancy Maginnes and the two have a lot in common. But Mrs. Wood has not replaced Miss Maginnes as the most important woman in Kissinger's life. Mrs. Wood, who lives in Georgetown, is well-born and well-connected. Divorced, and a member of a prominent California family, she is the favorite extra-woman these days with "Establishment" hostesses

Our embassy in Peking is still not furnished. The huge drawing room has nothing in it but 100 varieties of potted plants. Chatelaine Evangeline Bruce wrote friends here that some Chinese visitors just assume this sparseness is the typical American lifestyle.

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