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**Vesco Ex-Aide Denies
He Was a 'Bag Man'**

By Stephen Isaacs
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, March 14—The man who carried Robert L. Vesco's secret \$200,000 to Washington claimed today that he was just a "messenger" and not a "bag man" or a "fixer."

Laurence B. Richardson Jr., who had been president of Vesco's International Controls Corp., testified that he did not feel that the money he brought to Maurice H. Stans was payment for Stans' help in stopping an investigation of Vesco by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

He was on the stand for the second day in the trial here of Stans, former Commerce Secretary and also the head of the 1972 Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, and of John N. Mitchell, former Attorney General and 1972 re-election campaign chairman.

The two are charged with

conspiracy, obstruction of justice and lying to a grand jury in connection with attempts to intervene in the SEC case in exchange for the \$200,000 payment.

Richardson is one of those named as an unindicted co-conspirator.

Richardson's insistence that he was not a "bag man" came as he was cross-examined by Walter J. Bonner of Washington, one of Stans' attorneys.

Wednesday, however, Richardson had testified that Vesco had given him a message to deliver to Stans along with the money—which, he said, he had delivered. That message was:

"Mr. Vesco still has the same, SEC problem and he wants to know if he is going to get some help."

Richardson also testified
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had obviously been well prepared by the prosecution.

Richardson, whose appearance in the U.S. Attorney's office here on Feb. 4, 1972, started this case, told Fleming that he had made 65 appearances at the courthouse prior to today, before two grand juries and the prosecutors.

As Bonner and Fleming tried to trip Richardson on the testimony he had given for the prosecution, Richardson coolly smiled and responded in level tones. At one point, he stopped Fleming and asked to have the record of his testimony read back to him before he responded to a question.

In his direct testimony, Richardson added to his description of Vesco's attempts to stop the SEC investigation.

Richardson said he had tried to see Stans after the contribution had been delivered, at Vesco's request, but Stans refused.

Stans' secretary, said Richardson, told him that "she had talked to Mr. Stans and . . . had been given a message for me which was that Mr. Vesco ought to take up his problems with Mr. Mitchell directly and that he

didn't want to see me. . . ."

Richardson was president of International Controls Corp., at a salary of \$75,000 a year, while Vesco was its chairman.

At one point, said Richardson, New Jersey politician and Vesco associate Harry L. Sears told him and Vesco that "there was no sense of talking to (SEC Chairman William J. Casey) anymore, that he was completely lined up with the SEC staff and convinced that Vesco was a bad guy and that there was little hope to get any sympathy or any opportunity for a settlement with the SEC at any level."

Richardson said that Vesco also attempted to influence the case through presidential aides John D. Ehrlichman and the late Murray Chotiner. He did not specify how or whether successful contracts were made.

At another point, said Richardson, Vesco was subpoenaed by the SEC and was "completely agitated and emotional." Vesco told Sears, he said, that "Sears had better get hold of Mitchell or anybody else he could and tell him to have that thing quashed and if they didn't, to tell them that he was going to blow the

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today that, when he accompanied Vesco a month earlier to Stans' office when the money was pledged, Vesco had not told him beforehand that the money was for a fix.

He had though, he insisted, that "it was Vesco's intention to go down there and talk about a large contribution."

Wednesday, he described how Stans not only talked about his proposal to give a half-million dollars, but about the SEC's year-long investigation of him and his companies.

Richardson said today that afterward he told Vesco that Vesco was clever "to ask for help without asking for help."

Further questioning of Richardson did not clarify the apparent inconsistency between his insistence that he was not a "bag man" and the fact that he delivered Vesco's money and a message to Stans.

Attempts by Bonner and Peter E. Fleming Jr., one of Mitchell's attorneys, to "crack" Richardson's testimony were mostly fended off by Richardson, a 51-year-old former Navy pilot who

lid off the whole thing."

He said the whole thing "meant the \$200,000 contribution matter."

Friday, two campaign aides to Stans are expected to testify—Daniel Hofgren and Hugh W. Sloan.

Soviet Writer Says Film Credit Erased

MOSCOW, March 14 (UPI) — Poet and screenplay writer Alexander Galich accused the Soviet Union today of violating international agreements by removing his name from movie credits. Galich, 55, made the accusation in a letter to the International Pen Club.

Galich, whose underground satirical songs are widely known across the Soviet Union, was expelled from the official Writers Union and Cinema Workers Union in 1971 on charges of inciting Jews to emigrate.

When Moscow television showed a Franco-Soviet co-production on which he worked, "my name was again cut out, but this time they also cut out the name of my French co-author Paul Andreotta."