

Rep. McCloskey Hires Krogh as an Aide

By Jules Witcover
Washington Post Staff Writer

Rep. Paul N. (Pete) McCloskey (R-Calif.), the man who tried to dump President Nixon long before Watergate, has a new legislative assistant. He is Egil (Bud) Krogh Jr., former head of the Nixon White House "plumbers" and one of the first Watergate figures to go to prison.

Krogh, who served 4½ months for his ordering of the 1971 break-in of the Los Angeles office of Dr. Lewis Fielding, Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, was hired last week by McCloskey at a salary yet to be determined.

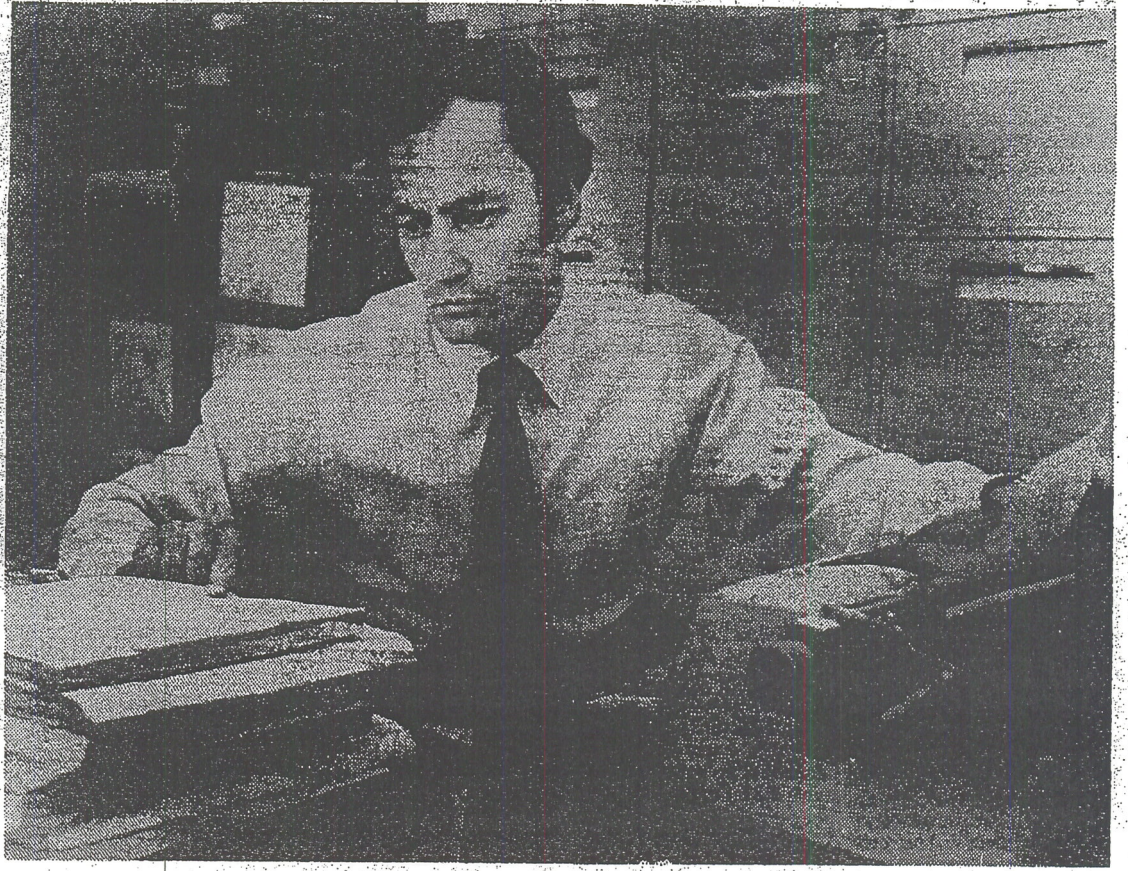
Since last Friday, the 35-year-old Krogh—once a White House wonder boy and later under secretary of transportation at \$42,500 a year, has been sharing a cramped office in the Cannon House Office Building with two other McCloskey aides. And, according to Krogh, loving it.

"I've always wanted to return to government," he said yesterday, hunched in shirt-sleeves over his typewriter. "I've got a lot of catching up to do in a lot of areas, but I'm very, very grateful to get back into government. I don't really feel about it as a cathartic or penance. I was guilty and served my sentence. It's not cathartic because I enjoy it."

McCloskey's new legislative assistant beamed with the apparent enthusiasm of a Washington neophyte as he spoke. McCloskey, he said, "has been a very helpful and supportive friend over last year and a half."

For McCloskey's part, he said he was lucky to get Krogh, "a superb lawyer" who has "immensely increased my capacity," particularly in subcommittee work on conservation, energy and law of the sea.

McCloskey said he first



By Gerald Martineau—The Washington Post

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knew Krogh through John D. Ehrlichman, his old debating partner at Stanford in 1950 who later became one of Nixon's two closest aides. Krogh was a partner in Ehrlichman's Seattle law firm, and McCloskey and Ehrlichman often referred land-use cases in their areas to each other.

McCloskey and Krogh met for the first time in Saigon in 1968 when McCloskey as a new congressman was looking

into land reform in South Vietnam and Krogh was working in that area.

"I think it's a shame to waste that kind of talent," McCloskey said of his decision to hire Krogh. "I hope someday he will be able to continue the practice of law."

The Washington State bar recommended Krogh be suspended from practice, and a higher board called for disbarment, and that matter is now

before the state supreme court. Krogh said he wants to be able to go back to practicing law, but for now wants to stay here in government.

Since his release from prison on June 21, 1974, Krogh has been giving lectures and conducting seminars on college campuses in about 10 states on such subjects as secrecy and executive privilege, the people's right to know, national security, the prison sys-

tem and the administration of federal programs.

Has he ever thought what might have been had he not been ensnared in the Ellsberg affair? "Never," he said emphatically. "I take it one day at a time. I learned a lot in the Executive Branch and in prison. I think things have gotten better for me. I've learned about the limits of national power, and I enjoy public service."