

Watergate Unit Wants Stolen List

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By John Hanrahan
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Watergate special prosecutor's office has been attempting to question the publisher of a U.S.-based anti-communist Chilean newsletter concerning a mailing list allegedly stolen from the Chilean Embassy last year in a break-in that possibly involved Watergate figures.

This was the first public indication that any document may have been stolen during the Chilean Embassy break-in the weekend of May 13-15, 1972—one month before five men were arrested for breaking into and bugging Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate.

The special prosecutor's office has been attempting to determine whether the embassy burglary involved some of the same persons who have been implicated in the Watergate break-in.

Wilson C. Lucom, publisher and managing editor of Chile La Verdad (The Truth), disclosed in a telegram to Acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork and in a telephone interview with The Washington Post that the special prosecutor's

office was attempting to question him in connection with the break-in.

Lucom, a former State Department official, charged that the special prosecutor's office had illegally issued him a subpoena on Nov. 8 to appear before a grand jury. Lucom said that, as a newsletter publisher, he was protected by a Justice Department order prohibiting the subpoenaing of members of the news media except with the specific authorization of the Attorney General.

The subpoena issued to him lacked this necessary authorization and was, therefore, illegal, Lucom said. He charged the special prosecutor's office with harassment.

James Doyle, press spokesman for the special prosecutor's office, acknowledged that the office is interested in questioning Lucom, but declined to discuss the subject matter.

"What is really being sought is our long-established circulation list and news sources in Chile."

Lucom called upon Bork to investigate whether the special prosecutor's office is in some way using "harassing, unfounded investigations" to aid Chilean Communists" in their united

effort to overthrow the present Chilean government."

Lucom said that the Watergate investigators had no evidence to link him to the Chilean Embassy break-in, but were instead indulging in "speculations to link me to the Watergate plumbers." He said he knows none of the persons implicated in the Watergate break-in.

Lucom said he was an assistant to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius in the early 1940s, and served as deputy and acting chief of mission in Ethiopia in 1944-1945.

D.C. police sources said that the embassy break-in was not intensively investigated at the time it occurred, and was then regarded as routine.

Doyle said that the office wrote Lucom late last month and informed him that it had withdrawn the subpoena after Lucom raised the First Amendment newsman's privilege issue. Doyle said the office had reached an understanding with Lucom's attorney to have Lucom come in voluntarily. Doyle said there was

nothing illegal or improper in subpoenaing Lucom, and that Lucom was not being harassed.

Lucom, in a telephone interview, indicated he would not cooperate with the special prosecutor's office. He said he was being asked to answer questions because "they tell me that a mailing list supposedly stolen from the Chilean Embassy May 13-15, contained names of persons who began receiving Chile La Verdad after that date. That, supposedly, was my link to Watergate."

Lucom, noting that the original District of Columbia police report listed "just four radios, a shaver and a passport" as being stolen, said he doesn't believe any mailing list was stolen from the Chilean Embassy. In his telegram to Bork, he said:

According to a document made public during the Senate select Watergate committee hearings, former presidential counsel John W. Sean III was concerned after the June 17, 1972, Watergate arrests that some of the same persons involved in that break-in were also involved in the Chilean Embassy burglary.