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Chapin Conviction On Lying Is Upheld

The U.S. Court of Appeals here yesterday upheld the conviction of Dwight L. Chapin, former appointments secretary to President Richard Nixon, on two counts of lying to a federal grand jury.

Chapin was convicted here in April, 1974, of lying to a Watergate grand jury investigating the "dirty tricks" of political saboteur Donald Segretti, who was hired by Chapin to disrupt the campaigns of Democratic candidates in the 1972 presidential elections.

Chapin had argued that the questions to which he allegedly lied were vague, and that the government had failed to prove he knew at the time his answers were lies.

He also argued that certain evidence should not have been allowed to be presented to the jury, but the appeals court said U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell "carefully weigh(ed)" the evidence and was correct in allowing it to be presented.

Judge Gesell sentenced Chapin to a prison term of 10 to 30 months, but Chapin has been free on personal bond pending appeal.