

The Washington Post reported today on more possible connections between President Nixon and the celebrated burglary attempt on the Democratic National headquarters in Washington, D.C.

[Pacifica, Washington:] Federal sources told the Washington Daily News floor plans of the Democratic National Committee's headquarters, electronic eavesdropping device and a fully-loaded gun*were found in the desk of Howard Hunt. Hunt had been working as a special consultant to the President on the declassification of the Pentagon Papers and on narcotics law enforcement. Hunt's desk, where the items were found, is located in the office suite of Charles Colson, special counsel to President Nixon. Federal officers described the electronic eavesdropping device found in Hunt's desk as a partially dismantled bug similar to those taken from the five men caught inside Democratic headquarters earlier this month.

Hunt had been interviewed by the FBI after the police found his name and phone number in the phone books of two of the men arrested at the Democratic headquarters. The police said that the notations "White House" and "W.H." followed Hunt's name in the address books. Hunt was a CIA agent from 1949 to 1970. He was involved in the CIA planning of the Bay of Pigs and at that time worked closely with Bernard Barker, one of the men arrested at Democratic headquarters. The Daily News reported Hunt had disappeared after he became publicly connected with the burglary suspects.

Police said there is evidence that the men were in the Democratic offices to remove dead bugs that had been placed there earlier.

In other developments, James McCord, chief of security for the Republican Committee to Re-Elect the President and one of the men caught inside the Democratic headquarters, is flying to Boston to ask attorney F. Lee Bailey to defend him.

And another of the suspects, Frank Fiorini, put the names of former Senator George Smathers and Representative Dante Fascell of Florida on his visiting list. Fascell and Smathers denied knowing Fiorini. Smathers got Fiorini his citizenship back after Fiorini lost it over his involvement with the Bay of Pigs. However, this does not necessarily mean they ever met; such duties are often performed for constituents.

Smathers is a close business associate of Bebe Rebozo and a close friend of President Nixon. The relationship between Smathers, Rebozo and Nixon was the subject of a Newsday investigative piece last year.

This is Robin Reising [phonetic], Pacifica Radio, Washington.

*unloaded pistol (Tad Szulc, NYTimes 3 Jul 72).

*It was not known whether the gun [.25 caliber pistol] was loaded when found, but it was unloaded when turned over to the FBI (LATimes Svc, SFChron 1 Jul 72).