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Magruder's work pleased Nixon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jeb Stuart Magruder testified Wednesday that early in the Watergate cover-up he was assured that then-President Richard M. Nixon was pleased at the way Magruder was keeping the true story of the scandal from coming out.

In the second day on the stand as a prosecution witness at the Watergate cover-up trial, Magruder also said he was promised financial help if anything went wrong with plans for him to lie to federal grand juries in the summer and fall of 1972.

The former deputy director of Nixon's 1972 re-election committee also acknowledged telling FBI agents that during the cover-up, he obtained as much money as he could above his normal salary from the committee.

Under cross-examination, Magruder said he told FBI agents on April 19, 1973, that after the original Watergate break-

in he accumulated \$10,000 or \$11,000 "for self-preservation." Magruder said he later learned the figure was \$6,000, which he held until the committee agreed to pay some of his legal fees.

It was left unclear precisely how Magruder went about obtaining the extra money.

Shortly after Magruder left the witness stand for the day, Assistant Prosecutor James F. Neal disclosed the next witness would be Robert Reisner, Magruder's assistant at the reelection committee.

Neal also said that a portion of defendant H.R. Haldeman's testimony before the Senate Watergate Committee might be played on a video tape machine and flashed on a screen for the jury.

Neal said because of complications, namely errors in the printed public transcript of Haldeman's testimony, it might be inadmissible as evidence that

the former White House chief of staff committed perjury before the committee.

During earlier questioning by Assistant Prosecutor Jill Wine Volner, Magruder testified that he once volunteered to take the blame for the break-in but was turned down by senior officials at the committee and the White House.

Generally, he recounted a story told before in testimony to the Senate Watergate committee and in his book, "An American Life; One Man's Road to Watergate."

Magruder, 39, told of preparing an elaborate cover story for federal investigators to account for \$250,000 approved for use by Watergate burglar G. Gordon Liddy, then an official of the re-election committee.