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A 'Darrien Debutante' Makes Her Media Debut: The Life, Times, Trials, Tribulations and Perils Of a '70s Mata Hari Who Saw the Light—Maybe

By Jules Witcover

Sex tried—with only modest success—to rear its ugly head in the Watergate case yesterday.

A self-styled New York call girl, attired in a black eye mask and blonde wig to hide her identity and in a plunging neckline and climbing miniskirt to reveal her anatomy, called a press conference at the Shoreham-American Hotel to tell all.

"All" consisted of a rambling narrative of how she was recruited by a New York judge into high-priced prostitution and how she shuffled between New York and Washington, plying her trade, with a little political espionage and blackmail on the side.

As television cameras and tape recorders captured the scene, the woman Faye Martin "in my other (professional) life"—named names of some key Watergate figures as clients and told of a New Year's Eve orgy at the Watergate attended by "a who's who—in the nude, of course."

Because she offered no evidence whatever to substantiate her claims,

and because the danger of libel hung heavily over all she said, the world at large will have to await her formal, privileged testimony—if it ever happens—before the Senate Watergate Committee.

Miss Martin, who said she was a licensed school teacher in New York who found a more lucrative trade, said she had sent documents to the Senate Watergate Committee and had a damaging film of herself at work with a high government official, but she refused to show what it contained.

Harry T. Rogers, a mystery figure who said he was a lawyer from the Midwest just helping but not representing Miss Martin, "an old friend," said a committee investigator would hear her story in private today. There is a "99 percent" chance she will then be put on the stand in public, he said.

But a staff assistant to Samuel Dash, the committee counsel, said he had told Rogers only that Dash and Fred Thompson, the minority counsel, would be advised of Miss Martin's offer to testify. No documents, incriminating or otherwise, have been re-

ceived from her, the staff aide said.

Miss Martin, who gave her anatomical dimensions as "37-24-35½" amid cries of "sexiest question" from a woman reporter, said her conscience, plus watching the Watergate hearings on television, had persuaded her to come forward.

She said she hoped to inspire other call girls with similar experiences to do the same. "I want to do something for my country," she said, dabbing her eyes through the mask.

Her espionage was bipartisan, Miss Martin said. A Republican contact sent her Democratic clients, and a Democrat contact sent her Republican clients, she said.

She said her modus operandi was to take papers from her client's briefcase or person and run them through a Xerox machine she had installed in the powder room of her New York apartment.

"When a man is comfortable and in bed," she said, bringing her expertise to bear, "they're very relaxed and they had a lot of papers on them."

Miss Martin said she taught English "as a second language."

She said a friend told her one paper she Xeroxed, looked like "a kind of periscope for an atomic submarine."

Miss Martin not only failed to produce any evidence to support her specific charges, but also acknowledged she often worked in the dark and didn't always see the faces of her clients.

She made no pretense, however, of being a very successful political spy.

"The Xerox machine didn't always work," she said. "I was more successful as a call girl than as espionage agent."

In her most specific reference to Watergate, Miss Martin said she had been approached by one of the convicted Watergate conspirators in June, 1972, about working on a Republican-sponsored yacht of prostitutes at the 1972 Democratic National Convention. But nothing ever came of it, she said.

In his testimony before the Senate Committee, former White House counsel John W. Dean III told the senators

Lady of the Night's Day

MARTIN, From B1

that G. Gordon Liddy had proposed such a yacht in his original political espionage plan in January, 1972, but had been turned down by then-Attorney General John N. Mitchell, who was then planning the Nixon re-election campaign.

Miss Martin, who said she was a debutante in Darien, Conn., in 1960 and a

graduate of the New York University School of Education in 1966, said she once appeared topless in an "X-rated" movie, but was not an actress. She is currently engaged to "a wealthy millionaire," she said, and she flashed a huge ring she said was "about three carats."

"I didn't want it too ostentatious," she said.



By Margaret Thomas—The Washington Post

Concerned citizen "Faye Martin."