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Merry-Go-Round**Mystery \$25,000
In Bugging Case**

SFChronicle

Jack Anderson

THE MYSTERIOUS \$25,000 that apparently helped finance the bugging incident at the Democratic National Headquarters has now been linked to Hubert Humphrey's biggest financial backer, soybean oil tycoon Dwayne Andreas.

Andreas delivered the cash, according to secret sworn testimony, to President Nixon's chief fund raiser in the Midwest, Kenneth Dahlberg. Both men are Minneapolis millionaires.

The testimony was taken from Dahlberg in Miami by State's Attorney Richard Gerstein, who is investigating alleged violations of Florida laws in the bizarre case.

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UNDER OATH, Dahlberg also admitted that he didn't pick up the cash from Andreas until April 9, two days after the new campaign reporting law went into effect. The law requires a public accounting of political contributions, but the \$25,000 was never reported.

Dahlberg testified that he flew into Miami on April 8 and met Andreas in his penthouse at the fashionable Seaview Hotel. The hotel's safety deposit box, however, was closed for the night.

The next day, Andreas withdrew \$25,000 in cash from the safety box and gave it to Dahlberg, according to sworn testimony. Dahlberg converted the money on April 10 into a cashier's check drawn on the First Bank and Trust Company of Boca Raton, Fla.

He handed the check to Maurice Stans, the top fund raiser for the Nixon campaign, on April 11 at a Republican meeting at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

The \$25,000 check later turned up in the bank account of Bernard Barker, a former CIA undercover man, who recruited a Mission Impossible team allegedly to bug the Democratic premises. Some of them had been involved in the Bay of Pigs fiasco with Barker, who is known to the CIA by the code name "Macho."

In the early morning hours of June 17, five men, including Barker, were arrested at gun point inside the Democratic office complex at the Watergate Towers. They were wearing rubber surgical gloves and carrying electronic eavesdropping devices.

They were also caught with \$5300 in crisp new \$100 bills, a couple of address books listing a White House contact and a walkie-talkie tuned to a special GOP security frequency.

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DAHLBERG'S sworn testimony, identifying Andreas as the source of the \$25,000, differs from his statement to federal auditors who are investigating whether the new campaign finance law has been violated.

He told them, according to an investigator, that he had collected the \$25,000 from various sources before the campaign reporting law went into effect. But under oath, in Miami, he admitted the money had been turned over to him by Andreas two days after the deadline.

In his opinion, he testified, Andreas had no knowledge of how his money was used. We tried repeatedly to reach both Andreas and Dahlberg but neither returned our calls.

Same column New Orleans States-Item 28 Aug (this file), with one additional paragraph.

8 Apr -- Sat
9 Apr -- Sun
10 Apr -- Mon

* AP, SFChronicle 28 Aug, says box was in Dahlberg's name. Bernard Gwertzman, NYTimes 27 Aug, reports Dahlberg says he was handed the money on a golf course; implication is that Andreas handed it to him there.