

# HALDEMAN LINKED TO WIRETAP DATA

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Ex-Aide to Magruder Tells  
Senate Panel Reports Had  
Also Gone to Mitchell  
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WASHINGTON, June 5—The Senate Watergate committee heard testimony today that political espionage reports had been prepared for a meeting with former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and had been sent to the White House office of H. R. Haldeman, then a top Presidential aide.

It was the first evidence in public and under oath indicating that Mr. Mitchell, then serving as President Nixon's

*Excerpts from Senate panel's  
Watergate hearings, Page 36.*

campaign director, had access to memorandums gleaned from wiretaps on telephones at the Democratic National Committee offices.

The former Attorney General has acknowledged that illegal eavesdropping was proposed during meetings in his office during the early months of 1972, but he has said he always rejected the plans and was unaware they had been carried out.

Today's testimony came from Robert A. F. Reisner, a young, baby-faced former administrative assistant to Jeb Stuart Magruder, deputy director of the Nixon re-election committee. Mr. Reisner is now an official of the Office of Management and Budget.

He told the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities that in the week or two before the break-in at the Watergate offices of the Democratic organization, he had seen reports written on "gemstone" stationery in Mr. Magruder's possession.

"Gemstone" was a code word used within the President's campaign committee to denote sensitive material ob-

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tained from the wiretaps and from other spying activity. Special stationery was printed bearing the word.

The taps at Democratic headquarters had been installed late in May, and reports based on the overheard conversations were sent regularly to the Nixon committee until June 17, the day of the break-in.

It was during this period, Mr. Reisner told the committee, that Mr. Magruder passed to him a Gemstone document "in such a way that it was indicated to me very clearly that it was not for me to observe."

He said he had been instructed to place the paper in two large files that Mr. Magruder prepared regularly to use in briefing Mr. Mitchell on committee activity. The files were said to be duplicates so that copies of papers could be given to Mr. Mitchell.

The form of all versions of the wiretapping reports has never been made clear. Another witness before the committee today, Sally J. Harmony, said that she had typed about eight memorandums later found to have been based on the eavesdropping activity.

Mrs. Harmony was secretary to G. Gordon Liddy, a convicted conspirator in the scandal. She said most of the wiretapping reports had been dictated to her by Liddy, suggesting the possibility that the source of the information may have been disguised.

## Logs Are Transcribed

But she also said the Gemstone reports were on two occasions transcribed directly from logs of conversations delivered to her directly from the clandestine listening post by James W. McCord Jr., another of the conspirators.

Mr. Reisner was asked by Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., the North Carolina Democrat, who is chairman of the committee, whether anyone else received "copies of memos that Mr. Magruder sent to Mr. Mitchell."

"Yes, Sir," he replied, "each document to Mr. Mitchell [that was] sent through me would have been a formal document to Mr. Mitchell [and] a duplicate copy was sent to Mr. Haldeman's office."

Mr. Haldeman, the White House chief of staff, and John D. Ehrlichman, the President's domestic adviser, resigned their posts on April 30. Both have denied any prior knowledge of the wiretaps.

But Mr. Ehrlichman testified in a pretrial deposition made public today that one of Mr. Haldeman's aides, Gordon C. Strachan, had received what in retrospect appeared to be political intelligence reports.

## Had Not Been Approached

Mr. Reisner piqued the interest of spectators at today's hearings by reporting that neither the Federal Bureau of Investigation nor the Federal prosecutors had approached him until after the Senate committee subpoenaed him.

The Government conducted a large number of interviews at the Nixon committee, and Mr. Magruder was a key official whose indictment is expected. It was not clear why the Government had failed to interview his assistant before last month.

Mr. Reisner, who appeared without counsel, provided the committee with a number of important details. His manner was forthright, and he was willing to relate his answers readily to significant developments in the case.

Mr. Reisner said he had been unaware prior to the Watergate break-in that some intelligence reports were based on wiretaps, and he testified that Mr. Magruder had asserted a similar ignorance.

But Mr. Reisner said that Mr. Magruder also indicated that a file containing Gemstone documents had been destroyed after the Watergate burglary. It was first removed from Mr. Magruder's desk by Mr. Reisner, the witness said.

He added that Mr. Magruder, who was in California on the weekend five men were caught in the break-in, had ordered him to take "sensitive" files from his desk late on Saturday afternoon.

## Request Is Recalled

"I do not remember the complete sentences," Mr. Reisner said. "It was, 'Bob, we have some things there. There is a file that has Gemstone in it,' or, 'It has some papers called Gemstone in it, do you know what I mean?'"

Mr. Reisner said he had given the file to Robert C. Odle Jr., a committee official who has testified that he took it home unsealed Monday and kept it without learning the nature of its contents.

Mr. Reisner said that when Mr. Magruder returned in the following week all the "sensitive" files in his office were "centralized." They dealt with political matters, he said, and many were later marked by Mr. Magruder to be destroyed.

The witness, referring to a log of Mr. Magruder's appoint-

ments, said that his boss met with Liddy, Mr. Mitchell and John W. Dean 3d, the ousted White House counsel, in early February.

Liddy has been quoted in testimony by McCord as saying that the wiretap plans were discussed at such a session in the Justice Department.

Mr. Reisner also said he had once seen a memorandum dealing with information from the campaign of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, a Democratic Presidential contender last year, and that the source was code-named "Sedan Chair 2."

This source, identified by Mr. Reisner only as an apparently "disgruntled" Humphrey worker, was paid \$1,000 a month in committee funds for six or nine months, he said.

Mr. Reisner testified that when Mr. Mitchell was replaced as campaign director by Clark McGregor last July he did not tell the new chief what he knew because while he had "suspicions" he felt he had no direct evidence of improper activity.