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**A Campaign Aide Admits
 Lying on Watergate Cash**

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WASHINGTON, June 7—A General John N. Mitchell, and former official of President Nixon's campaign committee admitted today that he had lied last year in an effort to disguise the "dirty tricks" nature of cash payments to one of the Watergate conspirators.

Herbert L. Porter, one-time scheduling director for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, told the Sen-

ate Watergate committee that Jeb Stuart Magruder, deputy director of the Nixon campaign, had asked him to perjure himself.

Mr. Porter said he had kept quiet until last April out of intense loyalty to the President and "probably because of the fear of group pressure that would ensue—of not being a team player."

On April 9, as the Watergate investigation was being renewed by a Federal grand jury here, Mr. Porter said he had received a telephone call during which Mr. Magruder told him things were "getting a little hot."

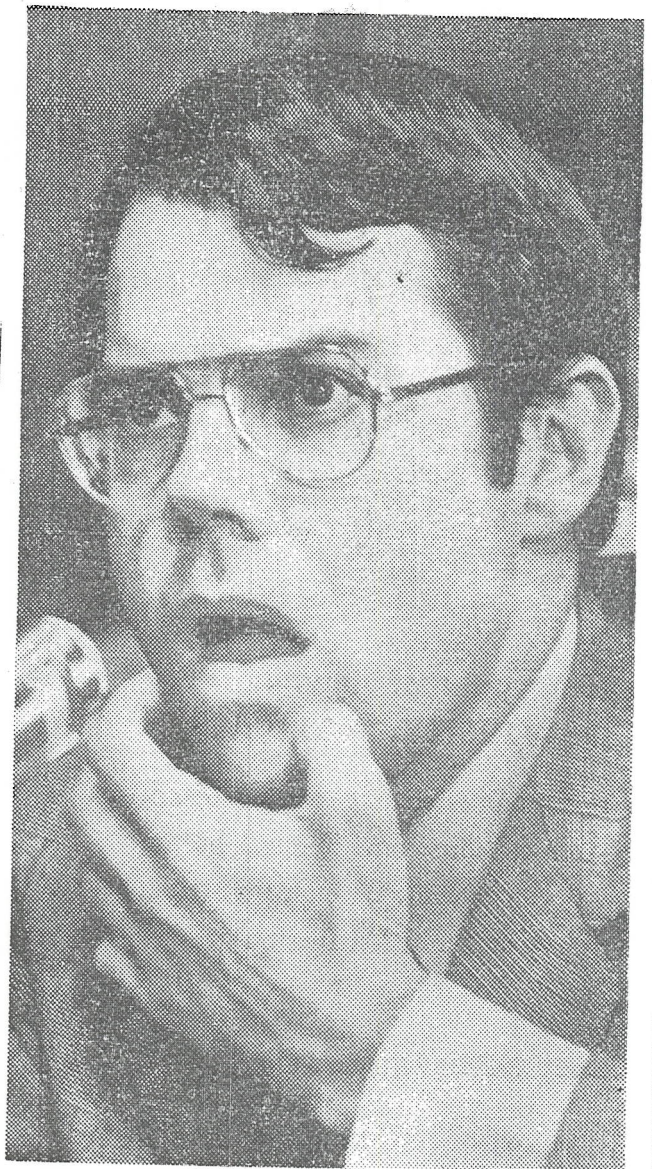
Several days later, just before he was to meet with Government lawyers, Mr. Porter said, he encountered Mr. Magruder on a Washington street. The former deputy campaign chief said he had just come

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ate Watergate committee that Jeb Stuart Magruder, deputy director of the Nixon campaign, had asked him to perjure himself.

To do otherwise, he quoted Mr. Magruder as having said, "could be very embarrassing to the President of the United States," to former Attorney



Associated Press

Herbert L. Porter testifying at Senate Watergate hearing

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from the White House, Mr. Porter testified.

"It's all over," he quoted Mr. Magruder saying. "The President has directed everyone to tell the truth." On the same day, April 14, Mr. Mitchell had also gone to the White House for a meeting with John D. Ehrlichman, then the President's chief domestic adviser.

Mr. Ehrlichman was said to have indicated to Mr. Magruder that the former Attorney General had declared he "was going to deny complicity to the end."

Not Questioned Earlier

The Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, again indicating an interest in the role of the Federal prosecutors in the original Watergate investigation, drew from Mr. Porter the statement that he had not been asked about any attempts to persuade him to lie.

Yesterday, the panel heard evidence from Hugh W. Sloan Jr., former treasurer of the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, that Mr. Magruder had attempted unsuccessfully to convince him to give perjured testimony.

Mr. Sloan said it had been his impression that, while the prosecutors had questioned him closely about the allegation, the matter finally became one of his word against Mr. Magruder's.

But Mr. Porter's testimony this afternoon, delivered in tense and occasionally uncomfortable tones, suggested that the Government lawyers had not tried to corroborate Mr. Sloan's account with Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter also said that several attorneys had sought to suggest that he really did not have any "problem" when he went to them after deciding in April that he should go to the Federal prosecutors and tell the truth.

'Embellished a Little'

"All you've done is just embellished a little," he said he had been told by Kenneth W. Parkinson, and attorney for the Committee for the Re-election of the President. "You haven't got a problem," Mr. Parkinson added, according to Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter also testified that he had said he would need his own lawyer and that Mr. Parkinson said that while he could retain one it probably was not necessary and, "as a matter of fact, it would probably be a little disruptive."

Mr. Porter's testimony dealt with the perjury scheme itself, with the collapse of that plan, and finally, with his own attitudes and loyalties. There was this exchange with the vice chairman of the Senate committee, Senator Howard H. Baker, Republican of Tennessee:

Q. Do you think an organization, a political organization, should be so anonymous, so military and obedient, so careful for the concerns of peer approval that it — each and

every member of that organization, at least up until a certain point and level in the organization chart — completely abdicates his conscience and judgment?

A. No, sir, I certainly do not.

Q. What caused you to abdicate your own conscience and disapproval, if you did disapprove, of the practices or dirty tricks operations?

A. Well, Senator Baker, my loyalty to this man, Richard Nixon, goes back longer than any person that you will see sitting at this table throughout any of these hearings. I first met the President—

Q. I really very much doubt that Mr. Porter. I have known Richard Nixon probably longer than you have been alive, and I really expect that the greatest disservice that a man could do to a President of the United States would be to abdicate his conscience.

A. I first met Mr. Nixon when I was 8 years old in 1946, when he ran for Congress in my home district [in California]. I wore Nixon buttons when I was 8 and when I was 10 and when I was 12 and when I was 16. My family worked for him; my father worked for him in campaigns, my mother worked for him in campaigns. I felt as if I had known this man all my life—not personally, perhaps, but in spirit. I felt a deep sense of loyalty to him. I was appealed to on this basis.

Senator Baker was stern and pointed. Mr. Porter was earnest and trying to explain. The exchange, which gave the audience a rare taste of a motive for at least one aspect of the

Watergate scandal, was interrupted by a vote on the Senate floor.

But when the committee members returned, Senator Baker took up the subject again and heard Mr. Porter testify that he "had been told by others that this kind of thing is a normal thing in a political campaign."

In his opening statement, Mr. Porter said that he had spent seven and a half years as a seller of "data processing computers and software" and that he had never been involved in any political activities.

Prior to the Watergate arrests last June 17, Mr. Porter said he had passed more than \$30,000 in Nixon committee cash to G. Gordon Liddy, one of seven men who pleaded guilty or were convicted in the plot to wiretap telephones at the Democratic party's headquarters in the Watergate office and apartment complex.

In late June, Mr. Porter testified, Mr. Magruder had called him into his office and had said that "he had just come from a meeting with Mr. Mitchell, Mr. [Frederick C.] LaRue, himself, and a fourth party whose name I cannot remember."

'A Team Player'

Mr. Magruder then said, according to the witness, that Mr. Porter's name "had been brought up as someone who could be—what was the term he used?—counted on in a pinch or a team player or words to that effect." Mr. Porter continued:

"Mr. Magruder swore to me that neither he nor anybody

higher than Mr. Liddy in the campaign organization or at the White House had any involvement whatsoever in Watergate."

While Liddy had been authorized to draw money "for some dirty tricks, nothing illegal," it was necessary to say the funds had been authorized "for something a little bit more legitimate-sounding than dirty tricks," Mr. Porter said.

"He said, 'Supposed that we had authorized Liddy . . . to infiltrate some of these radical groups.' He said, 'How could such a program have cost a hundred thousand?' I said, 'Jeb, that is very easy.'"

Mr. Porter, backing up Mr. Magruder, testified to the grand jury last summer and at the trial of the seven Watergate defendants last January that Liddy had operated a \$100,000 program designed principally to protect Republicans campaigning for Mr. Nixon.

The plan for this program, Mr. Porter said at the trial, had been discussed at the re-election committee late in 1971. In fact he admitted today, it had been made up last June.

Mr. Porter said he refused a request by Mr. Magruder to testify that he had given Liddy \$75,000 rather than the \$30,000 to \$35,000 he said he had actually dispensed to Liddy.

On April 11, Mr. Porter said Mr. Magruder told him he should ask Paul O'Brien, another attorney for the re-election committee, to call the prosecuting attorneys and then tell them the truth.

Mr. O'Brien was said to have

sent him to see James Sharp, an attorney for Mr. Magruder, and on the afternoon of April 13, Mr. Porter said, he told Mr. Sharp about the perjury.

"He looked at me rather incredulously and he said, 'My God, you are an ant.' He said, 'You are nothing.' He said, 'Do you realize the whole course of history is going to be changed?'"

Mr. Sharp, whose remark about the course history was said not to have been explained, suggested that Mr. Porter obtain a lawyer of his own.

'Several Indictments'

When he ran into Mr. Magruder across from St. John's Church on the next afternoon, Mr. Porter said his former superior at the re-election committee told him that "there were going to be several indictments."

Mr. Porter said after the hearing that Mr. Magruder had named Mr. Haldeman, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. LaRue, himself, and Robert C. Mardian, a former committee official. He also named John W. Dean 3d, former Presidential counsel; Charles W. Colson, former special counsel; Gordon C. Strachan, former White House aide, "and maybe even you," Mr. Porter said.

It was at meetings on March 28, soon after James W. McCord, a convicted Watergate conspirator, had complained in a letter read in court of perjury at his trial, that Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Parkinson said they did not think Mr. Porter had a "problem," the witness said.