

When Hunt Was Deleted

Washington

The White House recalled an internal telephone directory shortly after the June, 1972, Watergate break-in and reissued it without listing E. Howard Hunt Jr. as a consultant, a document released by the House Judiciary Committee disclosed yesterday.

The document was a seemingly candid affidavit supplied by an unnamed Central Intelligence Agency official who was assigned to liaison duty at the White House in 1972.

Most of the names in the two-page statement, dated Jan. 17, 1974, and given to the House committee by the CIA, were deleted at the request of the intelligence agency.

"Shortly after my assignment at the Executive Office Building (across the street from the White House)," the employee statement said, "a new telephone list was issued by the White House and it contained Hunt's name. The Watergate news broke and Hunt was involved. The White House recalled the

phone listings without reason and reissued them — we noted that Hunt's name had been deleted."

The House documents did not indicate who ordered that a new telephone book be issued or why such an order was given. The information was contained in a section of the committee's statement of information that dealt with the events immediately following the Watergate break-in — events that indicated that the Nixon administration was actively seeking to cover up Hunt's White House connection.

Hunt, retired from the CIA in 1971 after serving for 20 years and was subsequently employed by Charles W. Colson, a White House special counsel, as a \$100-a-day consultant. He worked that summer with the "Plumbers" unit investigating Daniel Ellsberg. Hunt maintained his relationship with Colson's office until his involvement in the break-in at the Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate office building on June 17, 1972.

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