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JFK's Ex-Aides Can't Remember Campbell Link

By William Chapman
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Former aides of President Kennedy yesterday said they could not recall his acquaintance with Judith Campbell Exner, the San Diego woman who said she had a relationship of a "close personal nature" with the late President in the early 1960s.

Dave Powers, Kennedy's personal aide and now curator of the John F. Kennedy Library in Waltham, Mass., said: "The name doesn't ring a bell with me." He said that Secret Service records on file at the library do not disclose any visits to the White House by the woman.

Stephen Smith, Kennedy's brother-in-law who traveled on many political trips with him during the 1960 presidential campaign, said he could not recall any visits to Las Vegas with him during the period Exner described. "I have no recollection of her name," he said.

Exner said yesterday that she had called Kennedy at the White House and that he had called her many times during the 54-week period of their acquaintance.

A Kennedy library official, Dan Fens, said White House logs on file show a "considerable number" of telephone calls from Judith Campbell coming into the White House during the period. He said he could not find any records of calls going out to her from the White House, but he added, "Of course, we don't have records of everything."

The Senate intelligence committee reported 70 phone calls in 1961 and 1962 between the woman and the White House but did not specify whether they were coming in or going out.

Evelyn Lincoln, Kennedy's secretary, told the Los

Angeles Times that the woman telephoned the White House but that she had never put the calls through to the President.

"She was a campaign volunteer and she called many times, but I don't think there are records that the President ever talked to her at the White House," she told the Times. However, Lincoln said she did put the woman's calls through to Mr. Kennedy when he was in the Senate.

"I have no way of knowing what she did or how she came to know him," Lincoln said. "She was just one of many, many workers in the campaign. He was a very attractive man, you know, and there were a lot of girls who wanted to work for him."

Exner said she first met Kennedy early in February, 1960, in Las Vegas.

Newspaper clippings show that on Feb. 1, 1960, Kennedy was in Carson City, Nev., for a political campaign speech to the Nevada Legislature. His former aides could not recall whether he also visited Las Vegas on that trip. The next day he was in Maryland to open his campaign for that state's convention delegates.

Search Continues For Stolen Art

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 17 (AP)—Columbus police continued their search today for a \$75,000 Picasso watercolor stolen over the weekend from the Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts.

Police said the painting, "Abstraction, 1916," might have been stolen Friday night when about 300 art students visited the gallery for two art movies and approximately 50 architectural engineers attended a dinner at the same time.