**SFChronicle** 

FEB 2 4 1977

## Watergate's Hunt Leaves Prison

Boston

E. Howard Hunt, the convicted Watergate burglar and author of spy thrillers, flew to Boston yesterday after slipping quietly away from a federal prison in Florida under cover of early morning darkness.

Hunt, 58, left the 475-man federal minimum security prison at Eglin Air Force Base after serving 32 months for his part in the breakin at Democratic national head-quarters in June, 1972.

Sources at Logan International Airport said Hunt, the recruiter and lookout in the break-in, arrived in Boston at about 11 a.m., a few hours after his release from the prison on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Hunt planned to talk to offi-

cials of the American Program Bureau in suburban Brookline. The agency, which is arranging a speaking tour, scheduled a news conference for Hunt for today.

Hunt, in the best cloak-and-dagger tradition, earlier evaded reporters who had camped outside the prison's main gate through the night.

Hunt had been sentenced to 30 months to eight years in prison after pleading guilty to conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping in the Watergate break-in.

His release was authorized by the U.S. Parole Commission last week after he paid a \$10,000 fine.

Hunt's release left G. Gordon Liddy as the only original Watergate defendant in prison.

Associated Press



AP Wirephoto

E. HOWARD HUNT He left in the dark