

A Figure in Raid on Democrats Reported a Fugitive in Europe

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WASHINGTON, July 2— E. that "my husband works for Howard Hunt Jr., the former the White House and he is Central Intelligence Agency of- away traveling so much that ficial now sought by Federal I hardly ever see him." agents in connection with last Because of the publicity sur- month's raid on the Democratic rounding Mr. Hunt in what was National Committee here, was rapidly becoming a major po- reliably reported today to have litical affair here, the Spanish fled to Europe and possibly to Embassy decided to terminate be in Spain.

This report came from per- sons close to Mr. Hunt as the Federal authorities said that a large force of Federal Bureau of Investigation agents had been searching for the form- er White House consultant throughout the United States since early last week.

At the same time, Spanish Embassy officials here said in weekend interviews that Mr. Hunt's wife, Mrs. Dorothy Hunt, long an employe of the em- bassy, had told them as late as the latter part of May that her husband was still working for the White House.

This appeared to contradict a White House statement short- ly after the raid on the Demo- cratic headquarters at the Watergate office building here that Mr. Hunt, whose name had been linked with the break-in at dawn of June 17, completed his consultant satus in the Presidential office on March 29.

Mrs. Hunt has been a part- time employe of the Spanish Embassy, whose officials said that she had told them in May

Continued on Page 15, Column 2

Continued From Page 1, Col. 2

her employment effective yes- terday, with a month's sever- ance pay. She had been em- ployed four hours a day trans- lating documents and speeches from Spanish to English.

Mr. Hunt, who played a key role in organizing the C.I.A.'s abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961, was linked to the Watergate raid after the police found his name and home telephone number in the address books of two of the alleged raiders, both of them Cuban-born, when the group was arrested at the Democratic offices.

Although Mr. Hunt spoke to F.B.I. agents three days after the Watergate raid, he refused, according to Federal officials, to answer any questions. Sub- sequently, he informed his friends that he was leaving Washington and for the last 10 days his whereabouts have been unknown.

Today, persons close to Mr. Hunt said they understood he had flown to Europe. They said he had "touched base" in Spain, but they were unable to say whether he still might be there.

All the five persons arrested at the Watergate raid had ties with Mr. Hunt during the Bay of Pigs operation, most notably Bernard L. Barker, a Miami realtor, who was said to have acted as the C.I.A.'s finance officer in the invasion prepara- tions.

In an interview with The New York Times last week, Mrs. Clara Barker, Mr. Barker's wife, said that her husband and Mr. Hunt were business part- ners in recent ventures.

The Federal authorities said last month that \$5,300 in \$100 bills found on the raiders at the time of their arrest and in their hotel rooms were part of a withdrawal of \$89,000 made by Mr. Barker from a

Miami bank in May. This amount was said to have been deposited the previous month in his account in the form of four checks drawn on a Mexican bank.

Mrs. Barker said that her husband and Mr. Hunt had been engaged together in busi- ness in Central America.

Pistol in White House

Federal agents reported last week that a walkie-talkie and an unloaded pistol were re- cently found in the drawer of the desk in the suite of offices Mr. Hunt occupied in the White House.

The White House has not said whether Mr. Hunt had access to his office there after he ceased to be a part-time White House consultant.

The White House has said that Mr. Hunt, who retired from the C.I.A. in 1970, was hired as a part-time consultant in 1971 on the recommendation of Charles W. Colson, special counsel to the President.

Mr. Colson and Mr. Hunt were reported by mutual friends to have been acquainted for some time. Both reportedly are associated with the Brown Uni- versity Alumni Club here.

Spanish Embassy officials re- ported that Mrs. Hunt left Washington on June 1, with two of her children, on what was going to be her month-long annual vacation. They said she had told them her plans were to visit London and Paris, but not Spain "this time."

However, Mrs. Hunt returned to the Spanish Embassy and resumed work on June 20, three days after the Watergate raid. She explained that the weather had been bad in Europe and, therefore, she had decided to shorten her vacation.

Mr. Hunt vanished from sight the following day, but his wife continued to go to work at the embassy until last Fri- day. Today, however, as in

past days, there was no answer to telephone calls at the Hunts' suburban Maryland home.

One of the reasons for the F.B.I.'s renewed interest in Mr. Hunt is that the persons who raided the Watergate were equipped with two walkie- talkies, similar to the set found at his White House office. Al- though the devices were said by the authorities to have used a frequency assigned by the Federal Communications Com- mission to the Republican Na- tional Committee, it was not known on what frequency the set in Mr. Hunt's desk was operating.

One of the persons arrested at the Watergate, James W. McCord Jr., also a former C.I.A. agent, had served as the security chief for both the Re- publican National Committee and the Committee to Re-Elect the President.

He was dismissed immedi- ately after the Watergate raid and John N. Mitchell, who re- signed yesterday as the direc- tor of the Committee to Re- Elect the President, said at the time that he was undertaking his own investigation into the matter.

Equipment found on the ar- rested persons included listen- ing and transmitting devices and cameras suitable for mi- crofilming files.

In other developments in the Watergate case, at least one, and possibly more, persons were brought from Miami last week to testify before a special Federal grand jury here.

Testifying before the grand jury last Tuesday was Miguel R. Suarez, who is Mr. Barker's Miami attorney and his partner in some real estate ventures.

The F.B.I. was also reported to have interrogated in Miami a large number of persons, mainly Cubans, whose names have come to the surface in the current investigation.

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