

'Wasn't Much of a Story'

Surprised at Impact:

By BILL PRESTON JR.

Alex B. Shipley Jr. thought there "wasn't much of a story" in the questions he answered for a Washington newsman concerning a year-old incident dealing with possible political espionage.

"I thought, if anything, it would wind up on the back page — headlined something like 'Interesting Sidelight in the News,'" said Shipley, now an assistant state general.

BUT THE story, recounting how Donald H. Secrest of Los Angeles had suggested that Shipley — an old Army buddy in Vietnam — engaged in political espionage in behalf of President Nixon, was on the front page of many newspapers Tuesday.

And it was a shaken Alex Shipley, who later told reporters, beaming on his porch Monday night, what the story broke.

Red-eyed and exhausted at 1 a.m. Tuesday, Shipley had been awake for 24 hours by that time. He said he never realized he would become a central figure in a potential political scandal.

"I took a different point of view," Shipley said. "I had a very public life, and some nonconformist opinions about political espionage activities long time ago."

"I never did anything for him because he never asked me to do anything," Shipley said. "He said it was a matter of (President) Nixon's security."

Nixon or his election committee or anybody at all," Shipley said.

"Sure, it intrigued me, and I went along with him, but I was trying to get him to tell me something specific, something to do, so I could blow the whistle on him."

BUT SHIPLEY blew no whistle because, he says, he never had any specific information. He said he never knew of any leaks or that he had any information that would be of any use to the president.

Shipley said he was a close friend of Nixon's and that he had known him since they were in the Army together in Vietnam. He said he had never seen any documents or anything that would be of any use to the president.

him," Shipley said. "I told him what I knew because I knew it was true. I felt I had a moral obligation to tell him the truth."

ALTHOUGH SHIPLEY said later he still placed no great importance on what he was able to tell the reporter, he apparently felt it was important enough to tell to the State Atty. Gen. in a fact sheet.

16 OCT 72
NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN

Shipley

that I knew about all the rest of it too.

"That's just not true. Why I don't even know who some of these other people are. I've never heard of them before."

He said that by his head.

"All right, but what if it's

if you're the Doug Scaretti

and he's the assistant attorney

general in Tennessee with

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

Army buddy. The latest in that series came yesterday

when Time magazine reported

that it had learned Scaretti

was linked to two White House

aides and the eddy was paid

\$35,000 from a Nixon "slush

fund" but the President's

personal attorney

And in each of the reports

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in

the name of Shipley in