

Segretti Apparently Tried To Join McGovern's Drive

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By STEVEN V. ROBERTS

Special to The New York Times

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LOS ANGELES, Oct. 18—A young lawyer who has been linked to an alleged campaign of political espionage against the Democrats apparently volunteered to work for Senator George McGovern in the California primary last June.

It has also been learned that at least three telephone calls were placed to Senator McGovern's state headquarters from the home of the lawyer, Donald H. Segretti.

Records in Senator McGovern's campaign headquarters in Santa Monica disclosed that someone identifying himself as Mr. Segretti appeared there and offered to work on June 3, just before the June 6 primary.

In addition, the records indicate that on at least three occasions someone answering Mr. Segretti's phone said that he would canvass a precinct or help distribute leaflets. But there is no indication that he ever did any work, and his card is now in the file of less active volunteers.

Several persons have told The New York Times that Mr. Segretti tried to enlist them in efforts to frustrate the Democratic campaign. But the cards on file in Santa Monica are the first solid evidence that Mr. Segretti himself had sought to become involved directly in the McGovern campaign.

The Times reported today that at least 28 phone calls charged to Mr. Segretti's home phone or his credit card were made last spring to the White House; to the home phone of Dwight L. Chapin, a close aide to President Nixon, and to the home or office of E. Howard Hunt Jr., a former White House consultant who has been indicted in the alleged bugging of the Democratic national headquarters.

Mr. Chapin and Mr. Hunt have been identified in news reports as Mr. Segretti's Washington contact for an alleged

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widespread campaign of harassment and disruption against Democratic candidates.

This morning, Ronald L. Ziegler, President Nixon's press secretary, insisted that "no one here at the White House directed" activities involving "sabotage, spying and espionage."

But Mr. Ziegler, as before, did not specifically deny published reports about the link between Mr. Segretti and the two Administration figures.

Phone Numbers Match

Mr. Segretti denied the original news reports about his activities, but efforts to reach him have been unsuccessful for the last two weeks.

The Segretti file at McGovern headquarters came to light when Barbara Bennett, the

manager of the Santa Monica office, recognized Mr. Segretti's name in news reports. She said that she went through her files yesterday morning and found two index cards with Mr. Segretti's name on them. The phone number and address on the cards are the same as Mr. Segretti's phone number and address in nearby Marina Del Rey.

The first card indicates that on June 3 Mr. Segretti volunteered to join a bicycle parade promoting the McGovern campaign. There is also a notation saying that he would canvass a precinct out of the Venice headquarters the next day.

Mr. Segretti was apparently called again on June 5, and the card indicates he consented to distribute leaflets.

Mr. Segretti was called at least 10 more times by McGovern headquarters after that, and notations indicate the phone was only answered twice. On Sept. 17 the card says he agreed to canvass, and on Sept. 23 the note says he would "probably" attend a rally.

The last call was placed on Oct. 9 and a message was left for him. That was the day before The Washington Post first linked him to alleged efforts to sabotage the Democrats. Several persons have said that he tried to recruit them for political espionage.

Miss Bennett said that she had no recollection of Mr. Segretti. And there is no record of which campaign workers might have called him, she said.

The person identifying himself as Donald Segretti appeared at the Santa Monica office about two weeks after three phone calls were made from Mr. Segretti's home phone to Senator McGovern's state headquarters in Los Angeles. McGovern staff members have yet to find anyone who remembers the calls, which were all made on the same day.

In this same period, at least 10 phone calls were made from Mr. Segretti's telephone to Los Angeles headquarters of the Republican party. Guy McCreary, the office manager, said today that he had never heard of Mr. Segretti.

Calls Made to Florida

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

TAMPA, Fla., Oct. 18—About 60 telephone calls were made from the phone of Donald Segretti or with his credit card this spring and summer to two young Floridians now serving as Republican campaign managers.

Twenty calls from March 5 to July 9 to the home telephone of Robert Benz of Tampa were charged to the home telephone of Mr. Segretti of Los Angeles. About 40 calls were made to Martin Douglas Kelly of Miami.

Mr. Kelly and Mr. Benz are campaign managers for Republican candidates running for seats in the Florida Legislature.

Mr. Kelly acknowledged talking to a man who identified himself as Mr. Segretti. But Mr. Benz steadfastly refused to comment.

Mr. Kelly, 23, said in Miami that he had "a number" of calls from California last spring and summer beginning before the National Democratic convention was held in Miami.

"I don't know that they were made by Mr. Segretti," Mr. Kelly said, adding that he had never met the lawyer and had not talked on all of the calls. "I received a lot of calls," he said.

Mr. Kelly said that he had been asked by the caller to "more or less come to San Diego to help at the convention."

The 40 or so calls made to Mr. Kelly began on March 12 and ended in late July.

The site of the Republican National Convention was shifted from San Diego to Miami Beach in early May.

However, Mr. Kelly still maintained that the calls were about attending the San Diego convention.

He said that he was never asked to engage in any political

sabotage. "And if I had been asked, I wouldn't have done it," he said.

Mr. Kelly said that he worked in the Florida Presidential primary this year as a field representative for the campaign to re-elect President Nixon and that in the summer he worked in an unsuccessful campaign for Ellis Rubin, a Miami Beach lawyer who demanded that the police crack down on "hippies, yuppies and zippies" who were planning demonstrations at the political conventions.

Took Campaign Role

In September, Mr. Kelly became campaign manager for Mike Thompson, a onetime Miami newspaper reporter running for the State Senate.

Mr. Kelly said that he did not know how Mr. Segretti had got his name and telephone number. He said that he was president of the Florida College Republicans two years ago and was on "a lot of mailing lists."

In Tampa, Mr. Benz, the campaign manager for Conway Brock, a Tampa stockbroker also running for the Legislature, refused to comment.

At first, Mr. Benz denied ever being called by Mr. Segretti but later said he had "no comment." He refused to give his age or any personal information about himself. He appeared to be in his early 20's.