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Alleged GOP Saboteur Tied to Nixon Official

By Carl Bernstein
and Bob Woodward

Washington Post Staff Writer

Within minutes of being informed that he was the subject of investigation by The Washington Post, Donald H. Segretti—a California lawyer allegedly engaged in sabotage against the Democrats—apparently made a telephone call to President Nixon's appoint-

ments secretary, Dwight L. Chapin.

Records of credit card calls charged to Segretti's friend, Lawrence Young, show that a call was placed to Chapin's home in Bethesda at 4:53 p.m. on Sept. 30—less than 30 minutes after Segretti learned that a reporter wanted to question him.

The Sept. 30 call was one of four calls apparently made by

Segretti that have not been publicly known until now. Two were placed to Chapin's home, and two were made to the White House switchboard. All were charged to Young's credit card.

The Sept. 30 call lasted two minutes and cost \$1.40, according to telephone records.

Segretti apparently also made a nine-minute call to Chapin's home at 5:34 p.m. on Oct. 2 for \$2.90, and a five-minute call for \$2.75 the next morning at 8:57 a.m. to the White House switchboard, according to the records.

The other call, an earlier one, was made at 10 a.m. on Sept. 6 to the White House switchboard for \$1.85.

Young said yesterday that the calls could have been made only by Segretti. "Don is the only one who could have done it—not even my staff, not even my wife has the credit card number, only Don," Young said.

It could not be learned who Segretti talked to in the four conversations, or from where the long-distance calls were made.

Young, 32, also a California lawyer and long-time friend of Segretti, provided the first account of Segretti's alleged involvement with Chapin.

On Oct. 15, The Post reported that Chapin acted as a contact for Segretti's alleged sabotage campaign. Time magazine also reported that Chapin and another White House aide, Gordon Strachan, hired Segretti to disrupt the campaigns of Democratic presidential candidates.

In its latest edition, Time quotes Justice Department sources as saying Chapin has "admitted to FBI agents that he had hired" Segretti.

At the time of The Post's Oct. 15 article, Chapin, asked to comment on it, said through the White House press office that the article was "fundamentally inaccurate."

At yesterday's White House press briefing, Ronald L. Ziegler, the President's press secretary, turned away questions about Chapin's alleged involvement with Segretti.

"I don't have anything to offer to you or add to what we have said before," Ziegler told reporters.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported that a Dade County, Florida criminal court judge refused yesterday to dismiss a state charge against Bernard Barker, a defendant in the Watergate break-in case.

Barker is accused of fraudulently using his notary public seal to endorse a \$25,000 check from Kenneth Dahlberg, President Nixon's campaign finance chairman for the Midwest. The state contends the check was part of the money used to finance the bugging of the Democratic National Committee's offices at the Watergate last spring.

Dade County Criminal Court Judge Paul Baker rejected the argument of Barker's attorney that "the notarization is not an act required by law and by no stretch of the imagination is a violation of the law."

The judge set the trial for today. Barker waived a jury trial.

Barker is one of seven men indicted in Washington on charges stemming from the break-in and alleged bugging at the Watergate. His trial here is set for Jan. 8.