

SF Chronicle

Report of a Try to Hire NOV 1 1972 'Long-Hairs'

Washington

A California attorney said yesterday that he had been asked by Donald H. Segretti allegedly a Nixon campaign undercover operative hired by the White House, to recruit "radical, long-haired kids" to demonstrate at the Republican National Convention.

The lawyer's account is the latest indication that the Nixon campaign attempted to promote demonstrations at the GOP convention, apparently for the purpose of linking them to supporters of the Democratic presidential nominee.

Byron Beam, 33, who attended the University of Southern California and the Boalt Hall School of Law with Segretti, said he was approached about recruiting demonstrators last April.

"Segretti said he was working for either the administration or the Republican party, I don't remember

which," Beam said, adding: "He asked me did I know of any radical, long-haired kids who might be interested in having fun at the San Diego Republican convention . . . for some demonstrations."

Beam, who described himself as a registered Republican supporting the candidacy of Senator George McGovern, said he was told by Segretti that "he had money to pay and would pay" persons recruited to demonstrate at the GOP convention, then still scheduled to be held in San Diego. The convention was later moved to Miami Beach.

Segretti, according to Beam, also spoke vaguely of other activities the recruits might be involved in and quoted Segretti as saying, "They should look like radicals; it helps with long hair . . . we'll have something for them to do."

Beam, now a partner in a Santa Ana law firm, said he never followed through on Segretti's request.

Washington Post Service