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Names in purse from plane probed

By Ari Petacque

The Justice Department Tuesday was investigating names and phone numbers found among the possessions of Mrs. E. Howard Hunt, the plane-crash victim whose husband has been indicted in the break-in of the Democratic national headquarters in the Watergate office building in Washington, D.C.

Justice Department officials were checking to see if any of the names and numbers were related to the Watergate incident.

Particular attention was focused on three names, two numbers, and a set of initials that investigators were not immediately able to identify.

A check by The Sun-Times indicated that three of the names and phone numbers found among Mrs. Hunt's possessions were those of her husband's attorney, a physician and a hypnotist.

One of the names, "Norman Korngold," was scribbled on a piece of paper with the notation "neurologist," but no phone number. A check of Washington (D.C.) area telephone listings found no such name included.

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The only such name in the Washington area telephone listings, Mrs. Allan Bratman of Bethesda, Md., told The Sun-Times she did not know Mrs. Hunt and had no idea to whom the mystery name referred.

Also uncovered was the name "Jim" and a phone number in the Washington area that has been discontinued, according to the telephone service.

At another number investigators received no answer. That number was noted along with the initials "M. B."

tested only in the Washington area, investigators consider it unlikely that Mrs. Hunt would have recorded telephone numbers in other areas of the country without including the area codes.

Other names found in Mrs. Hunt's water-soaked, discolored purse were traced readily.

The name "Horwitz" with the word "neurosurgeon" written after it apparently referred to Dr. Norman Horwitz, a Washington neurosurgeon who told The Sun-Times that Mrs. Hunt was not his patient.

However, it was learned that she had been under the treatment of a Washington orthopedist who referred her to Dr. Horwitz, although she apparently never contacted the neurosurgeon.

Three phone numbers were traced to William O. Bittman,

a former assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago, who was one of the leaders of the prosecution staff that obtained convictions against Teamster Union official James R. Hoffa and Bobby Baker, former U.S. Senate secretary.

Bittman is now in private practice in Washington and is the attorney for Mrs. Hunt's husband. There were three numbers listed, one for his office and two for his residence. Bittman was not immediately available for comment.

Also listed was a Dr. Gary Morris, listed in the Washington phone directory as a hypnotist. A phone check indicated that two numbers listed for him had been disconnected.

Also in Mrs. Hunt's purse was a checkbook with 13 unused checks. It showed a balance of \$3,254 in a joint ac-

count with her husband in a Washington bank.

The checkbook gave no indication, however, of the source of \$10,853 — mostly in \$100 bills wrapped in \$1,000 money wrappers — found in her luggage along with credit cards.

Meanwhile, Cook County Coroner Andrew W. Toman will empanel a blue-ribbon coroner's jury to investigate the crash, Toman's chief administrative aide, James J. Walsh, said Tuesday.

Walsh said the inquest would take place sometime in January. The jury will probably include persons with experience in aviation.

Although the numbers were