

McCord: 'Hush' Money Came From Hunt's Wife

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Watergate conspirator

James W. McCord Jr. has testified before a federal grand jury that he received \$3,000 a month from the late wife of his coconspirator, E. Howard Hunt Jr., to remain silent about his role in the bugging of Democratic headquarters, according to reliable sources.

McCord, the former security coordinator of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, reportedly testified that Dorothy L. Hunt told him the \$3,000 a month came from the re-election committee under an arrangement worked out by Kenneth W. Parkinson, the committee's attorney.

Parkinson called the charge "totally and completely false."

McCord reportedly testified that Mrs. Hunt told him that she was receiving money from either Parkinson or an intermediary representing the Nixon re-election committee. Mrs. Hunt was killed in an airplane crash in Chicago last December, and at the time of her death was carrying \$10,000 in \$100 bills.

According to sources familiar with McCord's grand jury testimony, he said he was told by Mrs. Hunt that she was also paying four other defendants in the case—the Miami men arrested inside the Watergate with McCord on June 17—\$1,000 per month each to remain silent about the conspiracy.

McCord, according to the sources, testified that Mrs. Hunt had become increasingly

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disturbed about her role in allegedly paying off the defendants to keep silent, and discussed the matter with him on several occasions.

McCord reportedly told the grand jury that Mrs. Hunt appeared certain that the money was coming from the re-election committee, either directly or indirectly through Parkinson. On several occasions, McCord is said to have told the grand jury, Mrs. Hunt told him that the arrangements for the payoffs had been made through Parkinson.

During the Watergate trial, Hunt and the four Miami men pleaded guilty to all the charges against them. McCord and his principal superior in the conspiracy, former White House aide G. Gordon Liddy, were convicted without taking the witness stand. Liddy has continued to remain silent since his conviction and has received an additional prison sentence for contempt of court after refusing to answer a grand jury's questions.

Meanwhile, Lawrence Young, the California attorney who first disclosed the contact between alleged political saboteur Donald H. Segretti and the White House, charged yesterday that there is an attempt to "muzzle" him.

Young said he had received a letter from Segretti's attorney warning that any communications between Young and Segretti are covered by a lawyer-client privilege of confi-

dentiality "and are not to be discussed by you under any circumstances."

Young denied a lawyer-client relationship with Segretti and said he views the attempt to keep him quiet as an indication that Segretti will refuse to cooperate with the Senate select committee investigation the Watergate bugging and related allegations of political espionage and sabotage.

Young said the letter from Segretti's lawyer was dated April 4, two weeks after an investigator from the select committee had asked Young for additional information about Segretti.

The letter, which Young said was signed by John P. Pollock, a Los Angeles attorney for Segretti, told Young that he was not to discuss anything regarding Segretti's "actions, persons with whom he was associated, places where he traveled and all other aspects of his work."

Last fall Young told The Washington Post in a series of interviews that Segretti had told him that Dwight L. Chapin, President Nixon's appointments secretary, and Watergate bugging conspirator E. Howard Hunt Jr. were his contacts in spying and sabotage operation.

Young, Segretti and Chapin were all friends in the early 1960s when they attended the University of Southern California together.

The letter directs Young not to repeat any of his earlier

statements or make any additional disclosures.

"I deny any lawyer-client relationship," Young said yesterday in a telephone interview from Los Angeles. "I received no legal fees and asked Segretti three times if he wanted to retain me and he said 'no' each time."

Young said the letter, coming more than five months after his first public disclosures about Segretti's activities, is the first indication that Segretti might claim that their conversations were protected by the lawyer-client privilege.

A summary of FBI reports made public during acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray's confirmation hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee supports at least some of Young's most serious statements about Segretti.

The FBI summary said that Herbert W. Kalmbach, the President's personal attorney, paid at least \$30,000 to Segretti for undercover political activity and the payments were made at the direction of Chapin, who has since left the White House.

In a related development yesterday, Mary Lou Burg, deputy chairmn of the Democratic National Committee, said yesterday that the FBI swept the Democrats' Watergate headquarters last Friday, fruitlessly checking every telephone in the 29-office suite for a wiretapping device. One federal source said yesterday that one of the Watergate conspirators had told federal investigators to look for a bug in a telephone in the office of the party's official press spokesman, John Stewart and Joseph Mohbat.