

# U.S. Fires GOP Spy's 'Paymaster'

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By Lou Cannon

Washington Post Staff Writer

The Department of Interior has fired a former Nixon campaign official who paid a George Washington University student \$150 a week to spy on radical groups.

A department spokesman said that George K. Gorton was told to leave because of "adverse publicity" surrounding his role in the election campaign, when he served as national college director of the Nixon re-election campaign and as deputy to Kenneth S. Rietz.

Rietz, 31, director of the "New Majority Campaign" at the Republican National Committee, quit abruptly on Monday to accept a job with MGM Records.

In a telephone interview yesterday Rietz said from Los Angeles that he had helped find Gorton the job at Interior "because he did a good job in the campaign."

But Rietz flatly denied reports that either he or Gorton recruited young voters to spy on the McGovern presidential campaign.

"To say that I masterminded a spy ring of kids to spy on McGovern is ridiculous," Rietz said. "If there was any spying to be done, they should have been doing it on us."

Despite Rietz' denial, Sen-

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ate sources confirmed that Herbert L. (Bart) Porter had testified to Senate investigators that Rietz had recruited four or five young people to infiltrate McGovern campaign organizations. Porter was in charge of schedules for the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

The information that Rietz was about to be linked to the espionage campaign was also learned by Republican National Committee Chairman George Bush, other sources said, who asked Rietz for his resignation within an hour.

A Republican source close to the administration said that the Rietz operation involved "many little Watergates" directed at Democratic candidate headquarters.

"The George Washington pattern was repeated over and over with other campus recruitments," the source said.

Rietz said that Theodore F. Brill, chairman of the Young Republican organization at George Washington, was the only person hired for espionage activity. Brill, 20, was quoted in a March 11 story in The Washington Post as saying that he was assigned to infiltrate a peace vigil at the White House and on one occasion to help arrange for arrest of the demonstrators on drug offenses.

"Brill was the only one," Rietz said.

Gorton acknowledged that he hired and paid Brill,

## Police Wiretap Bill Vetoed in Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 25 (UPI)—Citing information leaks in the Watergate grand jury investigation, Indiana Gov. Otis Bowen today vetoed a bill that would have legalize wiretapping by police.

"Serious doubts exist as to the potential for infringing upon the rights of innocent citizens and the role of electronic surveillance in obtaining convictions," Bowen said.

"Events of the past few years, including leaks from the grand jury investigating the Watergate affair, indicate that the ability to maintain confidentiality of information is very much open to question."

whose reports were passed on to Rietz. Asked whether he thought this activity was, in retrospect, a mistake, Rietz replied:

"It wasn't a mistake or an asset. We were trying to collect information on a radical group as to what they might do in Miami or elsewhere. We didn't do it anywhere else because the opportunity did not arise."

After the election, Rietz said he tried to keep track of people who had performed well in the election campaign and help them find jobs. He identified Gorton, 25, as one of these, and said he had provided references for him.

While he was attempting to find a job, it was learned, Gorton used Rietz's telephone number at the Republican National Committee as a place he could be reached by prospective employers.

Republican sources said the White House first attempted to place Gorton at the State Department, but he was considered "too hot to handle" and turned away. He was then sent by the White House to Action, where new director Michael Balzano rejected him.

Finally, Gorton was placed at the Department of Interior and detailed to the Bicentennial Commission.

"It never worked out because of adverse publicity," said Bob Kelly, a public information officer at Interior. He said he believed the publicity was the story in the Washington Post in which Gorton confirmed that he had hired and paid Brill.

Rietz said he had told Bush last week that he was quitting to accept a post as business affairs assistant to Mike Curb, president of MGM Records.

"I've been involved in politics every day for 12 years, and there's not a lot of money to be made in it," Rietz said. "You have to do things at an appropriate time, and this just fits."

Rietz said he became friends with Curb, 31, at the GOP convention in Miami and that Curb "feels that I have a lot to contribute on what young people are thinking about."

Only last March 1, Rietz had looked forward to two years of service at the Republican National Committee as head of the "New Majority" drive aimed at convincing Democrats and independents who voted for President Nixon to back GOP congressional candidates in 1974.