

Has the GOP Money In a Swiss Bank?



Jack Anderson

OF THE hundreds of thousands in un-audited cash stashed in GOP safes across the country, there are whispers some money wound up in a secret Swiss bank account.

We have established that Alan MacQuoid, a minor Republican functionary in Los Angeles County, paid a mysterious call at the Swiss Credit Bank of Zurich on February 12. In two long-distance interviews, he admitted visiting the Swiss bank but refused to discuss the details except to say his business with the bank was "strictly personal."

He told us he was close to President Nixon's personal lawyer, Herbert Kalmbach, who kept around \$500,000 in Nixon campaign funds in a California bank account. At least some of this money, according to investigators, was used to pay for political spying and sabotage.

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MACQUOID also acknowledged he had been in contact with other persons involved in the Watergate case but vigorously denied any involvement himself.

We asked MacQuoid specifically whether he served as a conduit for money used in the Watergate escapade or other espionage activities. He paused about 10 seconds and answered "no comment." He told my associate, Jack Cloherty, however, that he had not had any previous dealings with the Swiss bank.

Our sources say MacQuoid flew to Switzerland ostensibly on a ski trip. He

left Los Angeles on Scandinavian Airlines charter Flight C-1219 with a group called "The Far West Ski Association" on February 10. Two days later, he slipped into the Swiss Credit Bank. He returned to Los Angeles on Flight C-1225 on February 25.

Through an attorney, Kalmbach denied knowing MacQuoid.

Sources close to the Watergate investigation, meanwhile, tell us at least \$500,000 was spent in an attempt to hush up the scandal. Wiretapper James McCord alone deposited \$60,000 in a Riggs National Bank account immediately after the Watergate trial. Investigators say he collected, all told, around \$100,000.

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AS EARLY AS August 7, Watergate ringleader G. Gordon Liddy's wife rented a safety deposit box at the Marine Midland Bank in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

She also left a padlocked trunk in the bank's "silver storage room." Branch manager George Harnen told us Mrs. Liddy "expressed concern as to who would have access to the safe deposit box." She asked specifically whether "the authorities" could get into the box or trunk.

Our story has also been confirmed that Mrs. E. Howard Hunt, the late wife of the other Watergate ringleader, handed out cash to the burglary-bugging squad. She was killed in a Chicago airliner crash, with \$10,000 in \$100 bills in her purse.

Probably never in the history of American politics has so much loose cash been floating around.