

# Aide in Campaign Tells of Warning On Bugging Case

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A former Nixon campaign aide has said under oath that he repeatedly told superiors, White House aides, defense lawyers and prosecutors after the Watergate arrests last year that officials of the President's re-election committee may have been involved in both the planning and a cover-up of the bugging effort.

Hugh W. Sloan Jr., former treasurer for the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, said much of his information was ignored or suppressed by those to whom he gave it. He said his information included allegations that Frederick C. LaRue and Jeb Stuart Magruder, key re-election committee aides, had told him he might have to perjure himself at the Watergate trial.

Sloan also said that even before the Watergate break-in, he had warned his boss, Maurice H. Stans, the finance unit chairman, of his concern over the amounts of money committee counsel G. Gordon Liddy was requisitioning with Magruder's approval. In all, Sloan estimated, \$199,000 was disbursed to Liddy, who was later convicted as one of the Watergate conspirators.

When Sloan expressed concern that he didn't know what the large amounts were being used for, Stans, he said, replied: "I don't want to know and you don't want to know."

Sloan's allegations came in a pretrial deposition he gave Monday in the civil suits that arose from the Watergate break-in and the bugging of Democratic National Committee headquarters. The deposition was made public yesterday.

In his deposition, Sloan named at least 14 persons he had told of his concern that the re-election committee was involved in the preparation for the Watergate bugging.

They included former White House chief counsel John W. Dean III, the President's former top domestic affairs aide; John D. Ehr-

lichman; Herbert W. Kalmbach, the President's former personal attorney; committee attorneys Paul O'Brien and Kenneth W. Parkinson; former assistant attorney general and committee aide Robert C. Mardian; White House aide Dwight Chapin; campaign chairman and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell; prosecutors Earl Silbert, Seymour Glanzer and Paul Campbell, and Stans, Magruder and LaRue.

Sloan said he also told many of these persons — including the prosecutors, Kalmbach and Dean — that Magruder and LaRue had told him he might have to commit perjury at the trial of the seven persons charged as Watergate conspirators.

Magruder and LaRue, Sloan said, had tried separately after the Watergate

arrests to get him to agree to testify that he had given Liddy much less money than the \$199,000 for which he had records.

Magruder, he said, had suggested that Sloan testify that he had disbursed only \$40,000 to Liddy; LaRue, he said, had suggested that Sloan take the Fifth Amendment. Sloan said he refused both men's suggestions, and told them he would testify honestly.

Sloan said he had told Stans after the arrests that the "financial connections" between the Watergate bugging and Nixon's campaign finance unit were "quite obvious."

On a trip to California with Stans after the Watergate arrests, Sloan said, Stans was in frequent telephone contact with Mardian and LaRue. From Stans' end of the conversations, Sloan said he determined it was Stans' attitude that "the finance people were not involved and didn't know what was going on . . . I assume his attitude was let's not talk about it now; it is not our problem; it is their problem."

Attorneys O'Brien and Parkinson, Sloan said, were "highly incensed" by what he told them about financial involvement of the finance committee in the bugging effort.

"They indicated to me they had been lied to by other members of the committee," Sloan said. Later, he said, he told LaRue of his concern that the lawyers had a "conflict of interest" in that they must represent the "corporate entity" of the committee rather than Sloan's personal interest.

Dean, he said, received Sloan's information in a "matter-of-fact" manner on several occasions during the summer. Sloan said he attempted to meet with H. R. Haldeman, the White House chief of staff, shortly after the arrests, but did not gain an appointment.

Sloan said he met briefly with Mitchell just before Sloan was first interviewed by the FBI after the arrests.

"I had expressed a concern (to Mitchell), 'What am I supposed to do in this situation? What do you want me to do?' As I recall, his (Mitchell's) only remark to me was, 'When the going gets tough, the tough get going.' Sloan said he did not know what this meant, "but there was no helpful guidance."

When he could not see Haldeman, Sloan said, he went to see Chapin shortly after the Watergate arrests. Sloan said:

"Chapin's reaction, I don't think we got into the money in specifics other than there is a lot of money floating around over there that, you know, people don't seem to know about anymore and, you know, what is going on.