



JOHN CAULFIELD
An offer of clemency
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Who Told Caulfield to Make Offer?

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Former White House aide John J. Caulfield was operating on orders from presidential counsel John W. Dean and possibly presidential adviser John D. Ehrlichman when he carried an offer of executive clemency to Watergate conspirator James E. McCord Jr., Senate sources said yesterday.

It was not known positively who directed Dean to make the offer, the sources said. But according to widely known information about the way Dean functioned, the sources said, he probably had conferred with Ehrlichman, then one of President Nixon's top two aides.

Caulfield has been subpoenaed before the Senate Watergate committee Tuesday to corroborate or discredit McCord's startling testimony about the offer.

Denial Made

White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler has denied that Nixon had any knowledge of meetings at which Caulfield is alleged to have made the offer last January. And the Washington Star-News said yesterday that Caulfield claims he did not invoke Nixon's name

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when he carried the offer to McCord.

McCord said in a carefully worded statement before the Senate committee Friday that he had met with Caulfield and that Caulfield told him he would get cash, executive clemency after 10 or 11 months, and a job later if he kept silent about Watergate.

McCord also said Caulfield told him Nixon was aware of the meeting and would be informed of its results.

Meets Confirmed

Caulfield confirmed Friday night that he had met with McCord three times and "conveyed to him certain messages from a White House official." Caulfield did not elaborate, but sources said he told committee investigators a few days ago that the offer of clemency came from Dean.

Nixon fired Dean April 30 and at the same time accepted the resignations of Ehrlichman and White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman. Caulfield took leave last Sunday from his job at the Treasury Department.

The McCord-Caulfield appearances Tuesday would set up the first real confrontation in the hearings thus far.

If Caulfield denies any part of the McCord account, it would raise the possibility of perjury. If he confirms it, the committee is certain to ask him to pinpoint who in the White House authorized him to make the offer.

Dean, Ehrlichman and Mitchell are among 20 individuals under subpoena for testimony in the current hearings.

Police Leaves

Caulfield has twice asserted that he took a leave from the New York Police Department in 1968 "at the request of Richard Nixon."

He made the assertion

once in his application for leave to work on Nixon's 1968 presidential campaign and again in an autobiography he prepared for the Treasury Department last July.

A 10-year veteran of police units that guard special visitors to New York, Caulfield requested a leave of absence in June, 1968, a police spokesman said, "to assist in guarding Mr. Nixon," then a presidential candidate.

The spokesman said a department leave-of-absence form indicated that Caulfield, a detective, said he had been "asked for by Mr. Nixon." No actual request by Nixon could be found in Caulfield's file, however.

After Nixon's election, a leave for Caulfield was requested by then Attorney General Mitchell. Caulfield went to work in the White House doing liaison work with law-enforcement agencies.

Many Jobs

From April, 1968, to July, 1970, Caulfield was a subordinate of Ehrlichman, then White House counsel. From July, 1970, to March, 1972, he worked for Dean, who was counsel after Ehrlichman moved on to be Nixon's chief domestic adviser.

After a one month stint at Nixon's re-election committee, Caulfield was given a job at the Treasury Department by a close friend and fellow New Yorker, Martin Pollner, then the Treasury Department's director of law enforcement.

Pollner, a former associate at Nixon's old New York law firm, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander and a former aide in the 1968 presidential campaign, earlier had supervised another figure in the Watergate affair, G. Gordon Liddy.