

# Vesco Aide Claims 'Missing Link'

San Jose,  
Costa Rica

A business associate of financier Robert Vesco says that he and Vesco have "a missing link" in the Watergate case and could prove it with "certain documents."

Norman P. LeBlanc, a Canadian businessman who was named with Vesco in a suit by the Securities and Exchange Commission last year, did not cite his proof or identify the "missing link."

Only if SEC investigators grant "cast-iron guarantees" of immunity to himself, Vesco and other Associates, LeBlanc said, would they turn over the documents. LeBlanc said he was "delighted" that a special investigator, Archibald Cox, had been appointed in the Watergate case.

"We openly invite him to meet us," LeBlanc said, "and hear what we have to

say and let justice prevail."

LeBlanc also accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency of "harassing" Vesco, a former New Jersey executive who has taken refuge — and provisional citizenship — in this tiny Central American country.

"We have been followed in the street, photographed and plagued by telephone calls," LeBlanc told newsmen Sun-

day night.

U.S. Ambassador Viron P. Vaky denied yesterday that the CIA is harassing Vesco and his associates.

LeBlanc named Peter Johnson, a second secretary and political officer here at the U.S. Embassy, as the head of the CIA in Costa Rica, "whose sole job is to get rid of Vesco, LeBlanc and several others of us."

"Peter Johnson is not CIA," Vaky told newsmen in his office. "No one in this embassy has any instructions to harass Vesco, LeBlanc or others. The CIA does not have any instructions, orders or a mandate to go after Vesco and LeBlanc or investigate them. We haven't tapped telephones, followed them or made threatening telephone

## to Watergate

calls."

Vesco is wanted by U.S. authorities to answer charges that he, along with 40 other persons and companies, drained \$224 million from investors in the giant Investors Overseas Services Ltd. mutual fund company.

That case is not directly linked to the Watergate affair, although a secret \$200,000 donation to the Nix-

on Re-Election campaign resulted in indictments in New York against two former Nixon Cabinet ministers.

LeBlanc said the Nixon administration pressured the SEC to cover up two other controversial cases — one involving the International Telephone and Telegraph — in a "trade" designed to "get Vesco."

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