



Associated Press

David R. Young, former National Security Council staff member, leads a procession of his lawyer, Anthony A. Lap-

ham (hands in pocket) and reporters down a stairway in Rayburn Building after talking to a House subcommittee.

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# 'Plumbers' Director Declines to Talk

By Susanna McBee

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David R. Young, former co-director of the White House "plumbers" squad, refused to answer more than 40 questions put to him yesterday by a House subcommittee probing the Watergate scandal.

Young invoked his Fifth Amendments rights as he did last month before a Los Angeles County grand jury, on the advice of his attorney, Anthony A. Lapham.

The "plumbers" unit, also directed by Egil M. Krogh Jr., another White House aide, was created in 1971 to investigate security leaks to news media, particularly Daniel Ellsberg's leak of the Pentagon Papers. Krogh, too, has cited the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination.

Rep. Lucien N. Nedzi (D-Mich.), chairman of the House Armed Services subcommittee looking into Cen-

tral Intelligence Agency involvement in the Watergate affair, noted that "the law does provide a witness with that privilege," which is not considered an admission of guilt.

In the closed session Young refused to say whether he and Krogh had sent former White House domestic adviser John D. Ehrlichman, their immediate boss, a memo in advance about the plumbers' Sept. 3, 1971, burglary of the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist, Dr. Lewis Fielding.

Ehrlichman told the FBI that he learned in advance only that two "plumbers," E. Howard Hunt Jr. and G. Gordon Liddy, were going to the West Coast to investigate Ellsberg, but did not know about the Fielding burglary until afterward.

Later, testifying before Nedzi's subcommittee, Ehrlichman said he would have to check his records to see if

the memo mentioned plans for a burglary. He also said he would send the subcommittee a copy of the memo, but a Nedzi aide said yesterday none had been received.

Young, who worked on the National Security Council staff, was asked about CIA testimony alleging that he called former agency director Richard M. Helms in 1971 to request CIA aid in putting together a psychological profile of Ellsberg. He declined to answer.

He also refused to answer questions about meetings between CIA officials and Hunt and Liddy to discuss the profile. Nedzi said at least one meeting occurred after Aug. 27, 1971, the date the CIA was supposed to have stopped its assistance to the "plumbers."

Other questions left unanswered:

- Who issued orders to the "plumbers"?
- Did Young call the Pen-

tagon and State Department, as those agencies have said, to request permission for Hunt to see classified documents on the Pentagon Papers? The Pentagon rejected the request, but the State Department let Hunt see 240 classified cables.

• What contacts did Young have with the CIA, which in July, 1971, furnished Hunt with disguises, phony identification, a tape recorder and a camera? The equipment was used in the Fielding and Watergate break-ins and other "plumber" escapades.

Today the subcommittee is to question former White House counsel John W. Dean III, and Friday it is to interview Liddy, the only one of the seven convicted Watergate conspirators who has refused to discuss the matter with any investigative unit.