

# Mystery Agent Once on Nixon Team



**Jack Anderson**

**A** MYSTERIOUS fortune hunter arrested by federal agents for carrying a snooping device and working as an illegal foreign agent for Zambia served as an "electronics expert" on the 1968 Nixon campaign team.

He is Marshall Soghoian, who handled secretive electronics chores at the Willard Hotel headquarters of the 1968 "United Citizens for Nixon-Agnew" in Washington, D.C.

For about four years, Soghoian has annually purchased about \$1 million worth of electronic and technical equipment from American businessmen for use in Zambia. He failed, however, to register as a foreign agent.

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**W**HEN he was arrested in Washington a few days ago, he was carrying a small transmitter designed to fit into a wall socket. An unusually high bond of \$250,000 was set, on grounds that Soghoian had "access to virtually unlimited amounts of cash."

Sources who worked for the 1968 Nixon campaign have told us that Soghoian joined the team as a "security man" who specialized in electronics.

We have been unable to establish that Soghoian was involved in any electronic surveillance of Nixon opponents. Howev-

er, (one high-level source in the '68 campaign told us that Soghoian "at one point talked about putting a telescope on the roof of the Willard to peer into (Hubert) Humphrey's headquarters.")

The same source said that Soghoian was paid \$1500 to \$1600 a month for his expertise.

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**T**HIS ACCOUNT was disputed by Michael Gill, the 1968 assistant national chairman of "United Citizens" and a member of the D. C. Republican Committee. Gill said he was "absolutely sure Soghoian was not a salaried campaign worker."

He met Soghoian at the 1968 Republican convention, Gill said, and the man later came around and "volunteered" his services.

Gill later arranged with the Zambian government to help build an "internal communications system," and he hired Soghoian to help him. "He stole the contract from me," Gill lamented.

This is the project Soghoian was working on, apparently, when he was arrested by the FBI.

Soghoian's bond was later reduced to \$100,000. After posting it, he was released in the custody of an uncle.