

# Vesco Denies Involvement In Drug Plan

By Philip Greer . . . . .  
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NEW YORK, Nov. 27—Robert L. Vesco today heatedly denied that he planned to finance a scheme to smuggle heroin into the United States. Vesco, in the Bahamas fighting extradition to the United States to face criminal charges, issued his statement through a Nassau public relations firm.

Reports published in The New York Times and The Washington Post quoted Frank Peroff, a former undercover agent, as claiming that an investigation into plans to smuggle heroin worth \$300,000 into the United States was called off when Vesco was reported to be the backer.

The White House today denied that it sought to limit the investigation. Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said, "I can state categorically that there was no White House knowledge of or involvement in the allegation and implications contained in this story."

Vesco was indicted last May along with former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans and New Jersey Republican leader Harry L. Sears on charges of attempting to obstruct an investigation into Vesco's affairs in return for a secret contribution to President Nixon's re-election campaign.

In July, Vesco was secretly indicted on federal charges that he defrauded a company he once controlled of \$50,000.

In a statement, Vesco denied "without equivocation or reservation" that he or any of his aides have ever been involved in heroin traffic. He denied knowing Peroff or Conrad Bouchard, who the newspaper reports identified as a member of the smuggling ring.