

Former Nixon Aide Chapin Indicted

Washington

President Nixon's former appointments secretary, Dwight L. Chapin, was indicted yesterday on four counts of perjury in the Watergate scandals.

Special prosecutor Leon Jaworski charged that on four occasions last April Chapin made statements before the Watergate grand jury that Chapin knew to be false.

All four alleged perjuries were connected with Chapin's dealings with Donald H. Segretti, who has admitted he infiltrated, sabotaged and spied on Democratic presidential candidates in 1972.

Each of the four counts, which are under the perjury sections of the U.S. Code, is punishable by a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Technically the charge is "making false declaration before a grand jury" and carries a heavier fine than the former term of five years and \$5000 fine for perjury. The provision was added to the criminal code in 1970.

Chapin's indictment brings the total to 26 individuals and seven corporations that have been involved in court action arising from the Watergate scandals and related matters.

Ronald L. Ziegler, President Nixon's press secretary, commented on the indictment yesterday, saying it "in no way undercuts a

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presumption of innocence."

Chapin left the White House late last January amid reports he was being forced out. The White House denied the reports.

On January 30, Chapin joined United Air Lines as director of market planning at the company's headquarters near Chicago.

The airline announced yesterday it had granted a request by Chapin for a leave of absence to devote full time to preparing his defense. The airline said the leave is without pay.

If Chapin is found innocent, he will be kept on, the airline said; if found guilty, he will be asked to resign.

The indictment, which included short transcripts of questions and answers before the grand jury in April, centered on Chapin's relationship with his old college friend, Segretti.



UPI Telephoto

DWIGHT CHAPIN AT HIS ILLINOIS HOME
He was President Nixon's appointments secretary

The alleged false statements were these:

- Chapin denied he discussed "in any way" distribution of campaign literature by Segretti or that he had knowledge that it was being distributed.

- Chapin said that Segretti telephoned him shortly after the break-in at Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate complex and said that the FBI was investigating, and, at that time, Chapin stated "I told him to talk to the FBI."

- Chapin said he received "one little note or something" on two Democratic presidential hopefuls from Segretti, but that they were not reports.

"Did you ever express any interest to him, or give him any directions or instructions with respect to any single or particular candidate?" he was asked.

Chapin's answer, "Not

that I recall," was noted as the point of false statement.

- Chapin was asked about his relationships with Herbert W. Kalmbach, President Nixon's former personal lawyer and fund raiser. He said he knew nothing about how Segretti was paid by Kalmbach, did not discuss amounts paid and only learned through reading the Washington Post newspaper about salary and expense arrangements for Segretti.

Segretti told the Senate Watergate committee last summer that he considered Chapin his boss throughout the time he was conducting political sabotage operations during the 1972 campaign.

He said he received nearly \$50,000 from Kalmbach in cash, hired a network of undercover agents and put them to work disrupting Democratic presidential campaigns in more than six states.

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