

Chapin Pleads Not Guilty to Lying to Watergate Jury

By ANTHONY RIPLEY

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 7—

Dwight L. Chapin, President Nixon's former appointments secretary, pleaded not guilty today to charges that he had committed perjury before a grand jury investigating the Watergate scandals.

Mr. Chapin, who was 33 years old last Sunday, was indicted Nov. 29 on four counts of knowingly making false statements before the grand jury. The perjury charges concerned his alleged knowledge of the activities of an admitted political saboteur, Donald H. Segretti.

Technically, the charge is "making false declaration before a grand jury" and carries a maximum penalty of five

years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. This is a heavier penalty than the old five years and \$5,000 fine for perjury. The charge was added to the criminal code in 1970.

Mr. Chapin appeared today before Judge Gerhard A. Gesell in United States District Court. The judge ordered him to turn in his passport and released him on his own recognizance.

Judge Gesell set Jan. 31 for a hearing on motions to dismiss the indictment and tentatively scheduled the trial for Feb. 19.

Mr. Chapin's lawyer, Jacob A. Stein, advised the court yesterday that he planned to ask dismissal because of pre-trial publicity and also to ask for a transfer of the case to another Federal district for the same reason.

He also said that he intended to look into the composition of the grand jury that indicted Mr. Chapin and the substance of the indictment itself.

Mr. Chapin's allegedly false statements were made in a grand jury appearance April 11.

The Watergate Special Prosecution Force alleged that he had lied knowingly when he said the following:

¶That he knew nothing about the distribution of campaign literature by Mr. Segretti.

¶That he had told Mr. Segretti to cooperate with a Federal Bureau of Investigation inquiry.

¶That he could not recall giving the instructions to Mr. Segretti about specific Democratic Presidential hopefuls in the 1972 primaries.

¶That he had learned only from newspapers about the arrangements made to finance Mr. Segretti and his operation.

Mr. Segretti told the Senate

Watergate committee that he considered Mr. Chapin his boss while he was conducting political sabotage operations against the Democrats in 1972.

Mr. Chapin, who seemed unmoved during his court appearance, was dressed in a gray pinstripe suit, white shirt and dark red figured tie. He told reporters outside the courthouse:

"I have no sense of regret. I have only a deep desire on behalf of my family, my parents and my friends to see that this is brought to trial, cleared up as quickly as possible and my innocence is proven."

He added, "I think that I am a person of integrity."

Mr. Chapin left the White House in January and joined United Airlines as director of market planning. When he was indicted, the company gave him a leave of absence without pay.

Agnew to Retain Guards

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (AP) — Secret Service protection for former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew is continuing at the direction of President Nixon for an indefinite period, the White House said today. The White House deputy press secretary, Gerald L. Warren, said the Secret Service would decide when the protection was to end.

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