Rose Mary Woods' Apartment Purchase

By Maxine Cheshire

Senate Watergate Committee investigators, trying to determine if Rose Mary Woods received any part of Howard Hughes' secret \$100,000 donation to President Nixon, have subpoenaed all records on the purchase of her Watergate apartment.

Miss Woods bought her two-bedroom seventh floor duplex on Oct. 31, 1969, after having lived there nine months as a rental tenant. She is believed to have paid "at least \$21,000" down, one member of the cooperative's governing board of directors said last week.

She was the first private owner of that apartment, 705 South, and bought directly from the builder, the Watergate Improvements Association. According to records which were turned over to investigators last week, the construction mortgage on her apartment was \$52,500.

Miss Woods' own mortgage is \$31,500.

"She may have paid more than \$52,500," said a board member. "Or she may have gotten a bargain and paid less. The only way the Senate Watergate Committee is going to know is to also subpoena the records of the associates, who sold it to her. We don't have that in our files."

So far, the investigators have not subpoenaed the records of the associates, although they came back twice to get the board's records. The first time, they had asked for the wrong data.

Watergate Committee counsel Terry Lenzner is hoping to trace money which President Nixon's lawyer, Herbert W. Kalmbach, says Miss Woods received from Rebozo out of the \$100,000 from Hughes.

In an attempt to track any large amounts of cash, the investigators have also subpoenaed other financial records from Miss Woods.

According to Kalmbach, Rebozo told him he had given some of the money to Miss Woods and some to President Nixon's brother and "others."

Sale Records

VIP, From C1

The money was ostensibly a political contribution for either the 1970 GOP congressional campaign or President Nixon's 1972 campaign.

Miss Woods has denied ever receiving any money from Rebozo.

She may have bought her apartment before the Hughes money was turned over to Rebozo. There is some dispute about the time sequence of two payments of \$50,000 each.

The first \$50,000 may have been delivered in August, 1969. But it may not have come into Rebozo's possession until the summer of 1970.

Miss Woods, who has been President Nixon's confidential secretary for 22 years now earns nearly \$40,000 a year as his executive assistant and personal secretary.

Moscow Guide

Sen. Edward M. Ted) Kennedy's two older children, Kara and Teddy, didn't need a Kremlin guide and translator in Russia two weeks ago.

They were chaperoned by architect John Warnecke's wife, Grace, whose father, George F. Kennan, was the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow in the 1950's.

Warnecke, a longtime Kennedy family friend who designed Joan and Ted Kennedy's house in McLean, is currently in China. His wife took the Kennedy youngsters, who read up Russia before they left, and then took them on to Belgrade, where they met their parents for the return trip home.

Saxbe's Spittons

Attrorney General William Saxbe, who frequently lets fly with a verbal barrage that goes amiss, has better aim when he chews tobacco.

He has two spittoons in his office and one in his official limousine and seldom misses.

1974, The Washington Post/Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate, Inc.

See VIP, C3, Col. 1