

# White House Spying On George Meany



**Jack Anderson**

**E**VEN AS President Nixon was courting political support from George Meany, the White House "dirty tricks" crew was conducting a back-door probe to see whether the crusty, then 77-year-old AFL-CIO boss would survive a serious chest hernia.

As part of the snooping, according to "dirty tricks" chief Jack Caulfield, the White House used a management consultant posing as a doctor to try to squeeze medical data out of Meany's personal physician.

Meany's doctor denies he furnished medical information. The consultant agrees, saying he told Caulfield he obtained the information from two labor officials. But Caulfield nevertheless fobbed the "medical" reports off on President Nixon as coming straight from Meany's doctor.

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**I**N A ROOM locked to the public and the press, Caulfield told the Senate Watergate committee of the Meany caper and previously undisclosed details of his other hidden White House chores.

The once ruddy Caulfield, who has been weakened by serious abdominal surgery, turned out to be a slippery witness, the classified transcript of his testimony reveals.

"Do you know for a fact that the President was interested in getting some discreet information on the condition of George Meany" in 1971, Caulfield was asked by committee lawyer Terry Lenzner.

"Apparently a memorandum went from Dean to the President," said the ex-

New York City detective. "There was intense interest, I do recall, . . . on the part of many people at the White House. (Meany) had a (chest) attack. . . . The thrust of the inquiry was how serious. . . ."

When Lenzner pressed him on how he got his information, Caulfield heaved and dodged.

"I received it from a friend of mine," said the ex-White House official.

"Who was that?" demanded Lenzner.

"Mr. James Juliana," Caulfield finally acknowledged, naming an ex-investigator for the late Senator Joseph McCarthy (Rep-Wis.), who is now a Washington management consultant.

"Do you know how he got it?" persisted Lenzner.

"I think he got it from a physician friend of his."

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**"Y**OUR MEMORANDUM indicates that Dr. Marvin Fuchs, who was George Meany's personal physician, was talked to on a very discreet basis by another physician."

"Yes," said Caulfield.

"Was that Mr. Juliana?"

"Yes," swore Caulfield.

Both Dr. Fuchs and Juliana deny this as a baseless whopper. Juliana told us he was advised the attack was serious by two friends in the labor movement. He gave Caulfield a full report of his talk, he said, adding that the President should visit Meany in the hospital or send flowers. Within a few days, sure enough, not flowers, but cigars reached Meany from the White House.