U.S. Agents Linked to Vesco in Bugging Search

WASHINGTON, July 22 (AP) -Robert L. Vesco, the fugitive financier, paid \$3,000 to have Federal drug agents search his home and offices for hidden electronic bugging devices, a Senate subcommittee was told today.

Thomas P. Richardson, head of a Los Angeles brokerage firm, testified that he arranged for the search in June, 1972, and that Mr. Vesco later paid him \$3,000 in gambling chips

him \$3,000 in gambling chips at a Bahamian casino.

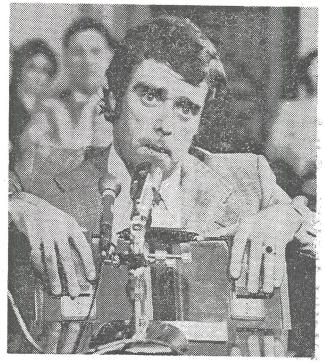
Mr. Vesco is under indictment on charges growing out of a secret \$200,000 cash contribution that he made to President Nixon's re-election campaign in an alleged effort to influence an investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Testifying under oath, Mr. Richardson said that he had suggested that Mr. Vesco have his New Jersey quarters checked for possible bugs after Mr. Vesco complained that private information was being disclosed from his corporation offices.

Mr. Richardson said that he

determine whether it had been bugged.

Mr. Richardson said that he then arranged for the search with John L. Kelly, who was then deputy director of the Buthen deputy director of the Buth



Associated Press

Thomas P. Richardson, at Senate hearing, tells of hiring Federal agents to check the home of Robert L. Vesco to

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