

# 'Hunt got order to kill Anderson'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt Jr. told associates he was ordered to assassinate syndicated columnist Jack Anderson in late 1971 or early 1972, the Washington Post says.

The Post quoted "reliable sources" in a story written by Bob Woodward in its Sunday editions as saying Hunt related that the order was canceled at the last minute.

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"His alleged plan involved the use of a poison to be obtained from a former CIA physician," the Post quoted its sources as saying. They added that Hunt told them the poison would leave no trace during a routine medical examination or autopsy.

The order to assassinate Anderson came from a senior official in the Nixon White House, the Post said Hunt told associates after the Watergate arrests in June, 1972.

Hunt, a retired CIA agent, is serving a prison term after pleading guilty in 1973 to charges stemming from the Watergate break-in.

Hunt reportedly told the sources Anderson was to be assassinated because he was publishing sensitive national security information in his column, based on top secret documents Anderson had acquired.

In 1971, Anderson published highly classified information that President Nixon secretly favored Pakistan in the India-Pakistan war.