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'Deep Throat' Talks — Then Faints Away

New York

The New York press was presented with its own "Deep Throat" mystery drama yesterday in a steamy 44th-story room at the Hilton Hotel.

About 30 reporters, photographers and cameramen had been summoned to the room to meet a man claiming to be "Deep Throat," the secret White House source who aided Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein in exposing the Watergate scandal.

A man, purporting to be Mr. Throat did indeed show up, spent a few minutes denouncing Woodward and Bernstein for making a fortune, declared himself a patriot who worked as a telephone installer in the White House, and then collapsed in a faint after saying, "I will not reveal my name."

He was then carried to a

bedroom of the hotel suite and a doctor was produced.

The doctor said his mysterious patient was now resting and seemed to be all right, save for a case of nervous tension.

By this time, the press was totally restive and the man who called the conference, Frank Santo, declared that the whole matter will be cleared up at another press conference.

But unsatisfied reporters demanded that Mr. Throat speak to either Bob Woodward or Carl Bernstein on the phone to prove his identity. Santo refused to let his client speak to them.

Then a reporter from the Washington Post got Carl Bernstein on the phone. He refused to talk to Mr. Throat and pronounced the whole thing a hoax.

Reuters