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Watergate Plotter Pays Fine

Washington

E. Howard Hunt Jr., the chief talent recruiter and lookout for the Watergate burglary, paid his \$10,-000 fine yesterday and cleared the way for his parole next week.

He will be released next Wednesday, two days earlier then the date set by parole officials.

The fine was paid with a check drawn on the account. of the Baltimore, Md., law firm that represents Hunt. His lawyer, William Snyder, said Hunt paid the fine with an insurance settlement and money raised by mortgaging a house.

Hunt is serving a 30-month-toeight-year term in the federal prison camp at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida for his role in the break-in at Democratic party headquarters in the Watergate Office Building on June 17, 1972. He pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping.

As soon as Hunt is freed, he will fly to Washington to testify in a civil suit which is an outgrowth of the Watergate case, Snyder said. Hunt along with others, is a defendant in the suit.

He had served the minimum 30 months by January 10 in two stages. He was free for nearly 16 months in the middle of his prison term while his case was on appeal.

Hunt, 58, was a former longtime CIA agent who was brought into the White House by former Nixon aides John Ehrlichman and Charles Colson. He was part of the White House plumbers squad that sent burglars into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist and later worked with G. Gordon Liddy on the Watergate burglary.

Associated Press



E. HOWARD HUNT JR. \$10,000 for freedom