

Circle of Friends Supports Helms

by William Greider

"... Helms ... has been dogged by stories that somehow a closer link existed between him and E. Howard Hunt, Jr. ..., including the yarn that the CIA director personally lent Hunt [no date] \$20,000 or \$30,000. As it happens, Helms explained that in secret testimony at the time [not specified]."

Story quotes Helms as having said, "The guy was in very serious straits," and that the CIA had "something we call the Public Service Aid Society, which contains a fund of money administered by some directors into which people give voluntarily to build up a fund so that people in a jam can get this stuff without paying interest and so forth." Story does not say that the money Hunt needed came from this fund.