

OGC 73-0947

30 May 1973

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Inspector General

**SUBJECT:** Office of General Counsel Contacts with  
E. Howard Hunt

**REFERENCE:** Memorandum for All Employees from  
ES/CIA Mgt Com, dtd 23 May 73;  
Subj: Agency Involvement in the  
Watergate Case

1. To the best of my recollection, I first met Mr. E. Howard Hunt in Japan in 1954 at which time he was stationed in Tokyo and I was there for several weeks TDY. I had no official business with Mr. Hunt as I recall and the meetings were casual office or office party meetings. I must have run into him casually from time to time there - after in the office as some time in the middle 1960s when he had returned to Washington he invited me and my wife to a cocktail buffet. I cannot remember the year let alone the month and day but I remember the house was out of town in a rather secluded area up the Potomac.

2. I do not remember any further meetings with Mr. Hunt although it is probable I saw him from time to time in or around the office until 1969 when his daughter was in a very serious series of automobile accidents. This involved Mr. Hunt in a complicated series of legal involvements in which the Office of General Counsel tried to give him legal advice and assistance. Most of the work was done by Mr. James B. Ueberhorst who left the Office of General Counsel in 1972 to become the Administrative Officer of the courts of the State of Florida. We have queried Mr. Ueberhorst who said he has had no contact with Mr. Hunt since working with him on these legal matters except for a letter of appreciation from Mr. Hunt for Mr. Ueberhorst's efforts.

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3. My next contact with Mr. Hunt was a letter from him dated April 5, 1971, stating that on his retirement he had elected to take full annuity instead of reduced annuity with survivor benefits and asked if he could now change his election. I replied in the negative and he wrote again on White House stationery asking if he could change the election if he were re-employed and I wrote that this could be done but I saw no probability of re-employment at that time. Copies of this exchange are attached. Some time during the period of this exchange and certainly after my first letter of 6 May 1971, I remember running into Mr. Hunt at the National Airport and expressing regret that I had to turn him down. He said he quite understood and appreciated my interest and went on to say he was doing very well and recovering from his financial reverses resulting from the daughter's injuries and hospital care.

4. My last contact with Mr. Hunt was a telephone call to my home on 19 August 1972 in which he said he had received a call from a lawyer in Los Angeles named [redacted] who had been called to appear before the Grand Jury in Alexandria and was concerned as to whether he might be questioned about a confidential relationship he had with the Agency in 1952. I told Mr. Hunt to have Mr. [redacted] call me and I would handle the matter. My memoranda for the record on this episode are attached. This is the last communication I have had with Mr. Hunt. After his conviction and sentencing I saw him standing on a street corner as I drove by and I waved but did not speak to him.

5. There appears to have been one indirect contact with Mr. Hunt in connection with a law suit about which we have no direct knowledge. All we know is that the plaintiff requested some documents and submitted a check which we returned as evidenced by the attached copy of the documents involved.

6. Mr. Lansdale has a vague recollection of some business contact with Mr. Hunt when he was on the CA Staff, possibly in the 1950s or a little later. He has no recollection of seeing him in the past eight to ten years.

*Lawrence R. Houston*

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

Atts a/s

Orig - Adse

1 - Watergate Case

1 - Chrono

OGC:LRH:mks

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