

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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: IN RE: POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS :
: OF 18 USC 2511 & 2512 :
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29.4

Grand Jury Room No. 3
United States District Courthouse
3rd & Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Wednesday, August 15, 1973

The testimony of ROBERT A. F. REISNER was presented
to a full quorum of the Grand Jury.

BEFORE:

MRS. JILL VOLNER
Assistant Special Prosecutor
United States Department of Justice

KENNETH S. GELLER, ESQ.
Assistant Special Prosecutor
United States Department of Justice

1 or "I've got to have an answer," really was more of what he
2 was saying.

3 Q And did you pass these messages onto Mr. Magruder?

4 A That was the kind of thing that lots of people in
5 the campaign would do. Sometimes they'd call me, and that
6 was really the nature of my job, to sit in front of Magruder's
7 office and just --

8 Q But did you pass these things along?

9 A Oh, yes, I would have, definitely.

10 Q And what did Mr. Magruder say when you passed that
11 particular message along?

12 A Just, "Okay."

13 Q Did there come a time when Mr. Magruder told you to
14 tell Mr. Liddy that he had approval?

15 A That's right. I'm very vague on the time of this,
16 but the reason I place the time at the beginning of April was
17 that part of the message to Mr. Liddy was to tell him to get
18 going within two weeks and when I passed that message on, I
19 have the feeling that "two weeks", that I was thinking in
20 terms of when two weeks would be, and the time was going to
21 be the first two weeks of April.

22 Mr. Magruder, as I remember, stopped in the entrance
23 to my office and said, "Call Liddy and tell him its approved.
24 Tell him we want to get going in the next two weeks." And,
25 as I remember, part of the message may have been, "Tell him

1 the first part is approved," but that's as close as I can come
2 to Mr. Magruder's message.

3 Q When do you place the time of this event?

4 A In the beginning of April, is the best I can do.

5 Q And was this by telephone or in person with Mr.
6 Magruder?

7 A As I remember, Mr. Magruder stopped in the entrance
8 to my doorway and told me to tell Mr. Liddy that.

9 Q Was this after his return from Key Biscayne?

10 A Well, if I'm correct about the date, then it would
11 be after his return from Key Biscayne. However -- and I think
12 my general reluctance about this is that I don't remember it
13 in reference to Key Biscayne. I just remember it in the
14 beginning of April.

15 Q Did he call you from Key Biscayne and give you a
16 similar message?

17 A Not that I remember.

18 Q Did he call you from Key Biscayne at all?

19 A Yes, he did.

20 Q What was the purpose of it?

21 A I think he called me a number of times and probably
22 -- well, he would have called me for the normal kinds of things
23 he would call me about.

24 He took to Key Biscayne with him 26 or 30 documents
25 that he needed approval on -- 26 or 30 documents that he needed

1 approval on -- and as he, maybe, got approval, he would call
2 me and say, "Call so-and-so and tell him that this plan is
3 approved but that he should only spend so much money," and
4 that sort of thing. I mean, he was calling me and giving me
5 instructions.

6 Q I'd like to show you a book marked RR-1, and can you
7 identify this, please?

8 A Yes. It's a log that I kept. It's not an accurate
9 calendar but a log that I kept during the year 1972.

10 Q All right. When you say it's a log, it's a log of
11 your activities or a log of Mr. Magruder's activities?

12 A It's a log of my activities in 1972.

13 Q Does it also reflect some of Mr. Magruder's activi-
14 ties?

15 A Yes, it does. Particularly because my job was
16 related to his and, therefore, my activities related to his.

17 Q Now, concerning the Key Biscayne meeting, does it
18 indicate in your diary when Mr. Magruder left for Florida?

19 A Yes. It indicates that he was scheduled to leave
20 at 11:00 o'clock on Wednesday, the 29th, and there also is an
21 entry --

22 Q Let me just ask you, does your recollection conform
23 to that? Do you have any personal knowledge that he did leave
24 on that day?

25 A Well, no, I don't, but there also is an entry of my

1 activities saying that he would leave for Miami, unless there
2 was some other entry which I don't see.

3 I believe that he did leave on the 29th.

4 Q Okay. Now, there's an entry on the 30th. Would
5 you like to read that to the Grand Jury -- at 4:00 o'clock?

6 A The entry on the 30th refers to the matter that we
7 were just discussing, where he did call asking that decisions
8 be transmitted concerning activities that he had memoranda
9 in Florida about and he was getting approval for the memoranda.

10 Q Now, what were those specific items? Did they in-
11 clude the Liddy proposal?

12 A Not that I can see here. It seems that the decisions
13 that he was getting approval on were concerning the plans for
14 the Maryland primary. Some sort of a decision, and I had to
15 transmit that to Al Calpin; and something concerning the con-
16 vention, that related to Dick Herman and Bill Timmins.

17 Q Was there any reference to Mr. Liddy on the 30th?

18 A Yes. There's a request that I get Gordon Liddy, and,
19 to the best of my recollection, what I was asked to do was to
20 find Mr. Liddy and have him call Mr. Magruder in Florida.

21 Q And, therefore, your entry on Thursday, March 30th,
22 indicates to you that Mr. Magruder had either before leaving
23 or from Florida asked you to get Mr. Liddy to call him in
24 Florida?

25 A That's correct. I think he left on the 29th and I

1 was asked by Mr. --

2 Q And that entry is at 9:00?

3 A That's just a rough entry.

4 Q Somewhere in the area of 9:00 o'clock a.m.?

5 A Well, I could have been called the previous evening
6 and had written down that I had to find him and I might have
7 written that on the calendar to do that early in the day.

8 Q Did you get Gordon Liddy?

9 A As I remember, I had him call Mr. Magruder in Miami.

10 Q All right. Now, on the 31st, I note that there's
11 an entry that just says Key Biscayne. Does that indicate that
12 is where Mr. Magruder was?

13 A Yes, it does.

14 Q Is there also a mention of Mr. Liddy on the 31st?

15 A Yes. There's a column in this log which I use just
16 to note the things that were coming up that were interrupting
17 me, because there were a lot of activity and a lot of inter-
18 ruptions and just so I didn't forget about things that I'd
19 been asked to do.

20 And in that column -- which I think means it was an
21 interruption -- there is the word Gordon Liddy and then it
22 says next to him, "Give answer", and I believe that what that
23 refers to is Mr. Liddy must have stopped by my office on
24 Friday morning and said he talked to Magruder yesterday, "I
25 need an answer" or "I'm waiting for an answer," or something

1 like that.

2 Q Is it possible that that meant Mr. Magruder had
3 called you and give an answer to Mr. Liddy?

4 A Because I do not have a specific recollection of
5 that, that is a possible interpretation.

6 Q Now, and then following this sometime -- because
7 you think it's in early April -- you did, in fact, give Mr.
8 Liddy an answer?

9 A Yes. Except that I have no recollection of being
10 called by Mr. Magruder and asked to give Mr. Liddy any answer.

11 Q Your recollection is he was in the doorway when he
12 asked you. And what was Mr. Liddy's reaction to your saying,
13 "It's approved. Get started in the next two weeks?"

14 A Well, he used to call a lot of people in the cam-
15 paign and give them messages exactly like that. "The Maryland
16 plan is approved," or something like that, and I wouldn't know
17 what the Maryland plan was, but I assume that Bob Merrick --
18 who had submitted the Maryland plan -- knew what it was and
19 when I said it was approved, he knew what that meant.

20 So I called Mr. Liddy, and his reaction was not
21 characteristic of other people in the campaign. He said,
22 "But I can't," or "It's going to be difficult. I've got
23 people," or something like that.

24 So I said to Mr. Liddy, "I don't know what it is
25 that you're talking about. You're going to have to discuss

1 that with Mr. Magruder." And he said, "Well, all right."
2 I said, "You're just going to have to talk about it to Mr.
3 Magruder. I don't know what it is that you and he were talking
4 about."

5 Q Now, I'd also like to show you what is marked MG-1,
6 and can you identify this please?

7 A Yes, that's Mr. Magruder's calendar -- diary.

8 Q And do you know what year it's for?

9 A Yes. 1972.

10 Q Now, I note, in MG-1, under Thursday, March 9th,
11 there's an entry that just says, "8:00 - Gordon Liddy." Be-
12 neath that it says, in a different pen, "Florida Rally. Leave
13 11:00."

14 Now, can you explain what that entry on the 9th
15 means or those two entries on the 9th?

16 A Well, I assume the 8:00 o'clock entry, which is
17 written in Mr. Magruder's handwriting, indicates that Mr.
18 Magruder had at sometime, perhaps the previous evening, called
19 Mr. Liddy and made an appointment to see Mr. Liddy at 8:00
20 o'clock in his office.

21 The other entry indicates that Mr. Magruder then,
22 after that, left for Florida on a chartered airplane with a
23 large number of other people for a rally that took place in
24 Florida.

25 Q Now, would this have been the "Get Out the Vote