

13 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Seymour Hersh, E. Howard Hunt, and a
Panamanian "Plot"

Mr. Frank Sturgis, named in the Watergate affair, has related the following to reporter Seymour Hersh:

In 1971, Mr. E. Howard Hunt was associated with a Presidential anti-narcotics group. In the course of his duties with this group, he determined that there was strong resistance to the American effort to fight the drug traffic on the part of the government of Panama. Hunt, the story then alleges, formed a plot to assassinate a top Panamanian government official. The "plot" did not ever thicken, as the former Agency employee put it, and nothing ever happened.

Hersh, however, is trying vigorously to get information that such a plot did exist. He is trying to reach Mr. James McCord and any others thought to have been associated with Mr. Hunt, to get confirmation of this tale.

Jack Anderson is said to be sitting on the same story.

Source: Former Agency employee from an unidentified Hersh acquaintance.



Assistant to the Director

cc: Director of Security
Mr. Colby

APR 13 1973

W-5

(b)(3)