

White House Call Girl
The Real Watergate Story
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Feralhouse.com

One of the unanswered questions in the received versions of the Watergate affair was: why did the White House 'plumbers' want to bug the phones at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) in the Watergate complex? The DNC was a bureaucratic entity, not where the political action was. In his memoirs, Richard Nixon recalled his reaction to learning of the burglary:

'.....Anyone who knew anything about politics would know that a national committee headquarters was a useless place to go for inside information on a presidential campaign. The whole thing was so senseless and bungled that it almost looked like some kind of a setup.' ¹

In his *Secret Agenda* (1984) Jim Hougan showed that one of the phones the 'plumbers' targeted was being used by DNC staffers to book hookers.² The 'plumbers' were after dirt. This theme was reworked a little in Len Colodny and Robert Gettlin's *Silent Coup: The Removal of Richard Nixon* (1991) and this book is a further elaboration of the hooker theme, based round the author's acquisition of the phone book of one of the women, and it confirms and thickens Hougan's original research of 30 years ago.

The author's thesis is this: the CIA were running a honey trap, using prostitutes in a room wired for film and sound. In their search for dirt on Democrats, the Nixon 'plumbers' looked likely to uncover this and the CIA's assets within the 'plumbers' – 'ex' CIA officers McCord and Hunt – deliberately messed-up the bugging of the DNC office in the Watergate complex, triggering the scandal. This is plausible but not provable.

¹ <<http://whowhatwhy.com/2012/05/08/watergate-revelations-the-coup-against-nixon-part-2-of-3/#sthash.D2hJIuoD.dpuf>>

² Hougan has some interesting material on Watergate at <jimhougan.com/wordpress/>.

This tale, taken with the account by Robert Merrit of his time as a gay informant/*agent provocateur* in Washington in this period,³ convey a vivid picture of political sleaze in America's capital, as well as being an exemplar of Peter Dale Scott's original conception of parapolitics as being the 'dark quadrant where CIA, private intelligence operations and Mafia operations overlap.' They're all here, but centrally it isn't actually certain who was running the honey trap.

If this isn't 'the real Watergate story' – Watergate is many stories – this is nicely written, with many interesting photographs and substantial endnotes.

Robin Ramsay

³ *Watergate Exposed*, reviewed at <<http://www.lobster-magazine.co.uk/free/lobster62/lob62-watergate.pdf>>.