

Hoffa Quizzed By Grand Jury

WASHINGTON, March 14 (AP)—The government moved swiftly today—with a grand jury investigation—in the case of Jimmy Hoffa, Teamsters Union bigshot accused of a plot to plant a spy in the midst of the Senate's racket probers.

The cocky, dapper Hoffa, asserting innocence, said he would fight "until I am cleared."

DA Refuses To Answer Questioning

WASHINGTON, March 14 (AP)—Poker-faced William Langley, district attorney of Portland, Ore., took the Fifth Amendment before the Senate committee investigating rackets today and refused to testify about gambling and prostitution in his bailiwick.

He listened to tape recordings of what purported to be conversations between him and a pair of gamblers but refused to say whether he recognized his own voice.

Declines to Answer

He also declined—on grounds of possible self-incrimination—to explain a \$500 check drawn in his name by the Western Conference of Teamsters in 1954.

The tape recordings, made secretly by a third gambler who thought he was being double-crossed, quoted Langley as saying it was "all right" to run card games, handbooks, pinball machines and punchboards.

Changes Mind

They also quoted him as saying "I want my eighty-five hundred" and then saying a few seconds later: "You guys can have the eighty-five hundred."

It was the 11th day of the Senate committee's investigation of

But his senatorial accusers seemed satisfied they had the goods on him and could send him to prison on charges of an \$18,000 bribery scheme. They said the scheme was designed to obtain advance tips on what the Senate investigators were up to.

Maximum Punishment

The maximum possible punishment on conviction of bribery, is three years on each count and a fine of three times the amount of the bribe.

The grand jury began looking into the case this afternoon, and Dist. Atty. Oliver Gasch said it would meet again tomorrow.

The jury met under unusually secret circumstances with doors to several connecting rooms locked.

Counterspy Was Key

However it was learned that lawyer John Cye Cheasty, key witness, appeared before the jury. He is the man who, the government says, skillfully acted a double role—ostensibly a spy for Hoffa but really working with the FBI.

Gasch was asked whether any witnesses were being subpoenaed from Detroit, Hoffa's headquarters city. He said he wouldn't be surprised if that were true.

The charges were presented to the grand jury by James W. Knapp, of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division and by Edward P. Troxell, principal assistant U.S. District Attorney.

alleged links between public officials in Portland, high-ranking members of the Teamsters Union there and the underworld.

20 Killed in Plane Crash

MANCHESTER, England, March 14 (AP)—A Viscount airliner plowed into a housing development while coming in for a landing today and burst into flame, killing all 20 persons aboard. Hours later, the bodies of a woman and child were found in the rubble of one of three houses wrecked by the flaming craft. A woman and her 2-year-old son had been reported missing. The big British European Airways plane was coming into Manchester's Ringway Airport on a flight from Amsterdam. It apparently overshot the runway and crashed half a mile away.

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