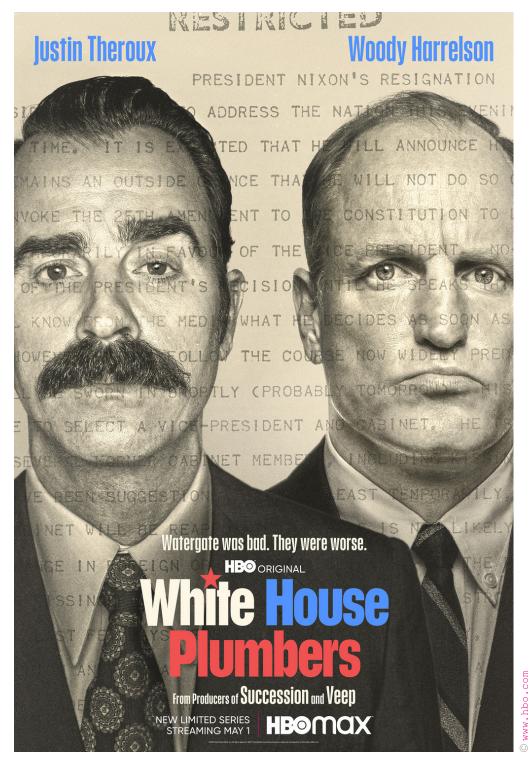
White House Plumbers Episode Guide

Episodes 001-005

Last episode aired Monday May 29, 2023









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The Beverly Hills Burglary

Season 1 Episode Number: 1 Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Monday May 1, 2023

Writer: Alex Gregory & Peter Huyck

Director: David Mandel

Show Stars: Woody Harrelson (E. Howard Hunt), Justin Theroux (G. Gordon Liddy)
Guest Stars: Lena Headey (Dorothy Hunt), Domhnall Gleeson (John Dean), Judy

Greer (Fran Liddy), Kim Coates (Frank Sturgis), Gary Cole (Mark Felt), Toby Huss (James W. McCord Jr.), Liam James (John Hunt), Tony Plana (Eugenio Martinez), Yul Vazquez (Bernard Barker), Nelson Ascencio (Virgilio Gonzales), Zoe Levin (Lisa Hunt), Rich Sommer (Egil Krogh), Tre Ryder (David Hunt), Alexis Valdés (Felipe De Diego), Jim Downey (Spencer Oliver), Joel Van Liew (David Young), J.P. Manoux (Robert Mardian), Deb Hiett (Susan the Photo Taker), Jon Glaser (Steve the CIA Disguise Maker), Doreen Calderon (LA Cleaning Woman), Julie Hays (Mary the Hunt's Maid), Noah Kieserman (Dean's Aide), Elizabeth O'Donnell (Krogh's Secretary), Chris Palermo (Dr. Fielding), Stevie Nelson (Linda the Stewardess), Henry Hall (Beverly Hilton Valet), Doug Simpson (Senior CIA Agent), Gavin Haag (CIA Agent), Ashley Brooke (Alexandra Liddy), Amaryllis Miller (Grace Liddy), Brayden Bratti (Tom Liddy), Jeremy Borgen (Jim Liddy), Theodore Helm (Raymond Liddy), Natalie Cassell (Pedestrian), Gwenyth Clark (Protester), Bobby Favoretto (Sketch Artist), Joe Gulla (Miami Cafe Patron), Isaac Loyal (Protester), William G. Tomek (Police Officer), Vincent Tumeo (Country Club Member), Dan Verkman (Pedestrian), Marla Aaron Wapner

(DC Pedestrian)

Summary: A year before the infamous Watergate break-in, E. Howard Hunt and

G. Gordon Liddy are tasked with investigating the Pentagon Papers leak, gathering a team of Cubans — all Bay of Pigs veterans — to infiltrate whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office. Meanwhile,

Hunt and his wife Dorothy get to know the Liddys.



White House Plumbers has the Watergate scandal of the 70's at its core. The scandal materialized in the US when a few low-level White House associates tried breaking into the Watergate Building and into the offices of the Democratic National Committee. The break-in triggered Nixon's resignation, the first sitting POTUS to do so. The series is set in the same era and centres around the five men who were arrested in relation to the break-in. Another important context to the show is the ongoing Vietnam War, which sparked

a lot of "patriots vs. communists" wrestling in America.

The scene we see at the start of the episode is the second attempt — out of four — to break into the DNC offices. It is headed by Howard Hunt and Gordon Liddy, our peculiar protagonists. Howard is a disgraced CIA Agent who now works at Mullen & Co., a PR firm. His wife, Dorothy

Hunt, is an active CIA Asset and a "mother of four" (St. John, David, Lisa, and Kevan). Howard is recommended by White House "Special Counsel" to the President, Charles Colson, to Egil "Bud" Krogh, Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs.

The story of our protagonists is more important than caring about these men with government distinctions. All of these were found guilty in the subsequent investigations and due to the satirist tone, many of these terms are used "out of place" to illicit moments of humour. Howard is called to work with the Special Intelligence Unit, which is looking into potentially treasonous acts of Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked high-level national security documents to the press. Gordon Liddy meanwhile, is a former FBI agent working in the SIU department.

Krogh informs the men that he will be heading the SIU and the two men will report to him. He will then report to the POTUS. We also meet John Dean in this episode too, who is a White House Counsel and was poised to work with the SIU instead of Hunt. But the President wanted a hardened right-wing traditionalist to take over the mantle.

Back at home, Dorothy and Howard are concerned about their daughter, Lisa, who has a nervous breakdown. She has unresolved mental trauma from an accident a while ago.

We then meet Mark Felt, Associate FBI Director, who reports to the SIU with hands-on intel about Ellsberg. His phones are being tapped and Felt gives them transcripts. Howard seems to think Ellsberg wants to spread the communist agenda, but it's an unsubstantiated claim and shows his bigoted attitude. The White House does not have a lot of credible evidence against Ellsberg and needs to publicly discredit him fast. There is a conflict between the SIU and Felt about the use of lie detectors on all high-access government department employees. Felt blankly denies any attempt from the FBI to do so.

After the meeting is adjourned, Howard and Liddy sit together to discuss the matter. Their extreme-right mindset has already indicted Ellberg as a Soviet agent. They want to get the transcripts of his sessions with his psychiatrist, Dr Fieldings. But how will they do it if the FBI couldn't? "A simple black bag job," the two men recommend to Krogh.

The men go to a CIA safehouse and Steve, Howard's previous associate, helps the men out with hilarious disguises to break into Fieldings' office and photograph the files. They make the trip to Beverly Hills, LA, but their attempt to gain "intel" is another humorous moment. One can expect a lot of laughs going forward so bring on the craziness!

Howard convinces the cleaning lady to get her to open Fielding's office. Liddy photographs inside but not the files because the cabinet is locked. While going back, Howard flirts with an air hostess and tells him the truth in a jokey manner.

Liddy pulls him up by saying he cannot afford to take missteps and vitiate the mission. Howard asks him to chill and feel the energy to become a spy. It turns out that they were not able to get the actual photographs of the file and go back with the cabinet photos to Krogh. And shockingly, he is impressed. Also, Howard has come up with a name for their unit: "Plumbers," who fix leaks.

Howard and Dorothy go on a double date with Liddy and his wife, Frances. They too have five kids, making a wholesome family. Their meetup, like the rest of the episode, has a lighthearted tone.

Frances is an ex-receptionist from IBM and Dorothy was a spy during WWII who used to recover stolen art from Nazis. Liddy plays a Hitler record yelling "how art was used as propaganda" against the Greeks. It is too loud to have a normal conversation so Liddy bizarrely gets out on the roof and attacks children who throw eggs at their windows.

Howard and Gordon's proposed mission to enter through the backdoor in Fielding's office is green-lit. Howard invites his Cuban amigos — Felipe De Diego, Rolando "Musculito" Martinez, and Bernard "Macho" Barker — to the hotel room. They will be breaking into Fielding's office since Howard and Gordon are on the White House payroll.

During the night of the mission, Howard and Gordon sit in the car and the former finally confronts him about his "Hitler hard-on." Gordon explains that his German nanny used to put on records of Hitler's speeches when he was afraid. They follow Fielding to his lavish house and survey his house. As Gordon starts making fun of therapists, Howard reveals he used to see one.

His children were in an accident once and Lisa, his eldest daughter, was driving the car and was badly injured in and affected by it. Howard stays back while Gordon goes to check on the operation. But there is a problem. The backdoor is locked, forcing the men to break in through a window. Their radios are not working properly, hence Howard is not able to communicate with

his colleagues when he sees Fielding has left his house. Somehow, the men are able to escape but yet again, they leave the mission incomplete.

The file they were after is not in the cabinets so Howard theorizes they are in Fielding's house. Howard and Gordon look at the polaroids the Cubans give them of the office. They are confounded when they see they've left a mess. They will give Fielding the impression someone was there, which was not to be done. Now, he will be on his guard. The plan was completely botched up. Howard feels his last chance to get "back on the horse" is over. He finds out Lisa is back home, saying she will drop out of college.

The LAPD has blamed the break-in on junkies, saving the Plumbers' behinds. The men get to the office, only to discover that Krogh has been fired. The SIU has been disbanded and now, the men will work on the committee to re-elect President Nixon. John Dean is heading the committee now. They will report to Jeb Magruder.

When asked why Krogher was dismissed, John gives the same explanation Krogher did when Howard asked him about John. The men rejoice as John says they can have a million dollars as the budget for their new op.

The final scene at the CIA HQs in Langley shows two analysts watching the polaroids developed from the camera Howard and Gordon used to click photos of Fielding's office. They forgot to take out the film before giving it back.

Please Destroy This, Huh?

Season 1 Episode Number: 2 Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Monday May 08, 2023

Writer: Alex Gregory, Peter Huyck

Director: David Mandel

Show Stars: Woody Harrelson (E. Howard Hunt), Justin Theroux (G. Gordon Liddy)
Guest Stars: Lena Headey (Dorothy Hunt), Domhnall Gleeson (John Dean), Judy

Greer (Fran Liddy), Ike Barinholtz (Jeb Magruder), Kim Coates (Frank Sturgis), Toby Huss (James W. McCord Jr.), Liam James (John Hunt), John Carroll Lynch (John Mitchell), Tony Plana (Eugenio Martinez), Yul Vazquez (Bernard Barker), Zoe Levin (Lisa Hunt), Tre Ryder (David Hunt), Nelson Ascencio (Virgilio Gonzales), Alexis Valdés (Felipe De Diego), Joel Murray (Don), Emily Pendergast (Edwina), Kathleen Turner (Dita Beard), Comfort Clinton (Crystal), Katlyn Carlson (Tawny), Tristan Griffin (Louis), Doug Trapp (Tom Chapman), Adinah Alexander (Hunt's Mullen Secretary), Harry Groener (Senator Phillip Hart), Rick Kain (CIA Handoff Man), Stephen Clark (Cannonball Guy), Alex Torres (Cuban Band Leader), William Rodriguez (Cuban Vocalist), Kisha Barr (Dean's Secretary), Andrew Spencer Dawson (TV News Anchor), Isaac Loyal (Whitehouse Staff), Peter Mitchell (CREEP Staffer), Milton Roy (Miguel Cuban military Man), Ashleigh Sites (Pedestrian), Kevin Thomas (White House Press), Vincent Tumeo (Country Club

Member)

Summary: While Hunt and Dorothy entertain Liddy and his wife Fran at their

exclusive country club, their kids Lisa and Saint John paint a less-than-perfect portrait of the family. Later, on the outs with Nixon's Attorney General John Mitchell, Hunt and Liddy get a chance to redeem themselves when a leaked memo from Dita Beard puts Mitchell and

the administration in legal jeopardy.



The opening scene will be explained later. For now, let's focus on our two enigmatic men. Six months forward from the opening date, in Jan 1972, Gordon and Howard take two prostitutes to dinner in The Forge, Miami.

They awkwardly regale them with Howard's Che Guevera story from his CIA days, but the pros are confused. The real reason is that the men want to hire their services to record members of the Democratic Party being intimate with the girls and their friends during the Annual Con-

vention sometime later that year.

Gordon and Howard work at Nixon's Campaign Headquarters. The nature of their work is kept confidential. Magruder, who was alluded to at the end of the last episode, knows about Gordon and Howard's work. He is the Deputy Chief for the Campaign, a significant position.

Gordon and Howard take their wives to the Lakewood Club where the latter is a member. It is in Maryland and quite a difficult place to get into. During dinner, the party spots Lisa and St.

John, Howard and Dorothy's kids, and calls them over. The kids are high on cocaine and act accordingly. Lisa later creates a scene which makes Howard extremely embarrassed and angry.

It also turns out he has not paid four months of membership fees for the club. At the Department of Justice building, a few weeks later, we see Gordon and Howard pitching "The Gemstone Project" to John Mitchell, the current Attorney General and head of the Committee.

These are a slew of cheap, low-stakes projects to "influence the vote." Magruder and John Dean are in the room as well, and Gordon keeps going with his stupid, crazy ideas. Howard tries to stop him, sensing Mitchell is dissatisfied. After he is finished, Mitchell scraps the entire plan and significantly cuts the budget.

The men leave, disappointed and unsure of what lies next for them. Howard has accepted his fate to work at Mullen. He feels he has lost the opportunity to return back to the White House.

One day at work, Howard faces the potential of a change in his fortunes. This is where we shed light on the first scene. The woman in it happens to be Dita Beard, a lobbyist for the International Telegram and Telephone Company. The letter she was drafting was a settlement the company entered into — illegally — with the Nixon administration for getting exoneration in a big antitrust lawsuit.

ITT committed the money to the Republic National Convention. Beard discussed it with John Mitchell, who personally agreed to the terms. Mitchell will be crucified for this and the two men feel this is their "Second chance" by saving Mitchell and Nixon.

Magruder believes otherwise and says this will blow over with smoke over the next few days... but it doesn't. The US Senate is in no mood to let this go and Mitchell is fired and under investigation. Magruder is vexed and rejects Gordon's offer to "help Mitchell." He jokingly says if Gordon wants to help, "go kill Jack Anderson" (the journalist who exposed this transaction).

He takes it to heart and Magruder just about stops him. Gordon also makes it clear to Magruder that he is no joke and takes his work very seriously. Howard deals with an emergency at home as Lisa locks herself in the bathroom.

In all of this chaos, he gets a call from Colson, calling him back. Howard breaks the door down when Dorothy asks him to stay and pay attention to his family. Lisa is fine, Howard cares for his family, and John Dean tells the men that Beard "must be stopped from testifying." He doesn't say it out loud, but Howard understands. Gordon wants to kill her but Howard insists on "finesse" to complete the job.

Gordon gets his costume back on — the wig, the bold name, and even the \lim — to pose as an attorney at Beard's house. He theorizes the FBI might be surveilling her and she lets \lim inside.

Gordon asks if she has any medical complications, but Beard mentions angina and he goes along with it, taking her to Denver for a medical emergency when she is to be deposed by the US Senate.

Now, they're flying out to Denver to depose Beard and Dean once again asks for Howard's help. He too gets in an absurd getup and meets with Beard. He is clever and measured with his words to convince Beard to lie.

Again, none of this is the "official word" and Howard is playing a hunch here. He also gives her a box of money and the plan works. She lies and now the media speculates someone convinced Beard to change her mind. Howard watches his family together with tender and caring eyes. But that changes when he comes inside, starts playing Scribble with his family, and Lisa uses a pronoun, "Xerox." Lisa storms out and insults Howard.

Gordon and he get their due at the campaign office the next day. Their reward is that Project Gemstone is back on, while the news is delivered by Mitchell himself, who is impressed.

Magruder informs them that they'll be working with James McCord, the head of security for the Committee. Gordon feels this is wrong as he is on the payroll and a paper trail can lead someone back to them (which it did). But no one listens to him. Now, the Gemstone project was a slate of 12 ideas. Mitchell has only approved one — Project Opal, bugging the DNC.

Don't Drink the Whiskey at the Watergate

Season 1 Episode Number: 3 Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Monday May 15, 2023 Writer: Alex Gregory, Peter Huyck

Director: David Mandel

Show Stars: Woody Harrelson (E. Howard Hunt), Justin Theroux (G. Gordon Liddy)
Guest Stars: Lena Headey (Dorothy Hunt), Domhnall Gleeson (John Dean), Ike Bar-

inholtz (Jeb Magruder), Kim Coates (Frank Sturgis), Toby Huss (James W. McCord Jr.), Liam James (John Hunt), John Carroll Lynch (John Mitchell), Zak Orth (Alfred C. Baldwin III), Tony Plana (Eugenio Martinez), Kiernan Shipka (Kevan Hunt), Yul Vazquez (Bernard Barker), Zoe Levin (Lisa Hunt), Tre Ryder (David Hunt), Nelson Ascencio (Virgilio Gonzales), Alexis Valdés (Felipe De Diego), Marc Menchaca (Carl Shoffler), David Pasquesi (James Jesus Angleton), Eddie K. Robinson (Frank Wills), Ed Herbstman (Watergate Office Guard), Michael Cruz Kayne (Watergate Security Officer), Gabriel Lawrence (Watergate Security Officer), Brit Herring (Man in Suit), Julie Hays (Mary the Hunt's Maid), Matt Barats (Tom Gregory), Kevin Dorff (Fred Jessup), Peter Herrick (Cosmos Club Member), Daniel Danielson (Head Waiter), DeLance Minefee (Waiter), Valerie V. Johnson (Watergate Maid), Ivan Moore (Watergate Hotel Doorman), Rick Irwin (Barrett), Jim Santangeli (Leeper), Kisha Barr (Dean's Secretary), Peter Mitchell (CREEP Staffer), Nikki Annunziata (Parisian Airplane Passenger), Victor Dobro (MPDC Officer D'Herde), Brian Foreman (Photographer), Jacqueline Honulik (Stewardess), Ben Kennedy (Airline Passenger), Patrick Klein (FBI Agent), Jesse Milliner (Pedestrian), Anita Moore (Watergate

Guest), Kevin Thomas (White House Press)

Summary: Hunt, Liddy, and the Cubans attempt to break into the DNC offices at

the Watergate to plant listening devices for the White House.



26 June 1972 marks the first attempt to break into the DNC office in the Watergate Building. Howard Hunt and his men, referred to as "unit 3," make their way through the back entrance of the building. The six Watergate buildings are all interconnected and the plan is to slip into the DNC office through the Watergate Hotel's banquet level after the office is empty. Alfred Baldwin, a former FBI Agent, is "unit 2," keeping an eye on the DNC office, waiting for it to be empty. It is Friday night and our plumbers expect

the offices to be vacated soon. Their patience is tested as the Democrat volunteers overwork the clock.

The plumbers assemble in the banquet hall and after the waiters exit, Gordon takes everyone except Howard and Villo to enter through the backdoor of McGovern's campaign office. His "inside man" will let them in, giving them access to the office. However, both plans run into trouble as the security guards lock Howard and Villo in the banquet room, and Gordon's "inside man" chickens out when he is found by a janitor. That is how the first attempt to break in failed.

The next morning, Howard gets a pleasant surprise as Kevan, his eldest and most normal daughter, comes home for the holidays. Gordon has joined the family at the breakfast table. Gordon pulls out his real gun when the youngest points his toy gun at him, forcing Howard to take Gordon outside. He has planned another attempt that night but hasn't told Magruder about the previous night's debacle. This time, they will be going into a separate office on a separate floor, as the McGovern building is a no-go due to increased security.

This is the plan we saw in the opening minutes of episode 1. The plan was spoiled due to James McCord, one of the plumbers, wandering off on the wrong floor. He had the equipment to break the locks and hence, they couldn't be breached that night. James runs into Larry, a security guard he knows, and pivots well enough to not raise alarms. Gordon threateningly asks for every last detail of their conversation. Villo is also instructed to go to Miami and bring back the right tools. The third time, the plumbers try the garage. They will be dressed as delivery men, who frequently come and go.

James will tape the doors and they will be able to get in. Nixon has just signed the SALT Treaty and won a major chunk of the public over. "Why this dilly-dallying then," asks Dorothy. Howard's answer is exactly what was wrong with the entire operation. The third time's the charm as our plumbers are successful in bugging the DNC office, as Nixon's speech heralding world peace echoes in the background. His best and worst moments are intertwined by a whiplash sense of irony.

Howard greets James Angleton, the CIA Chief of Counterintelligence (who was most recently seen in MGM's A Spy Among Friends), and Fred Jessup. Both men are reluctant to see Howard and he is slightly embarrassed in front of Gordon. Magruder and John Dean give a hero's welcome to the two men. But the sense of irony is found gutting by Howard and Gordon as it is revealed none of the microphones, except the one in a secretary's phone, are working. The operation is a failure. But Gordon pitches an even more "pissant" idea to Mitchell and Magruder, which once again turns against them.

Howard gets over it and prepares to join his family on a trip to Paris. But Magruder instructs Gordon to break in again, fix the bugs, and photograph O'Brian's bottom left drawer. Howard is unwilling to do it again. He's out for good. But he has forgotten his passport at the White House and goes back to retrieve it. Goron tries to convince him again. He taps into an emotional vein, citing how Angleton and Jessup "high-hatted" Howard. Gordon himself went through the same bullying at the FBI. Howard is bizarrely convinced to do it one last time.

They do it a fourth time. Howard and Gordon are hanging back at the command centre as the Cubans go in with McCord and Frank. But Wills, the night security guard in the Watergate, has removed the tape from the door. The Cubans report back. Howard wants to abort but Gordon is calling the shots and motivates them to go again. A vote is finally called to decide and they decide to go. They're able to breach the door as Howard and Gordon celebrate. But Wills has caught wind of the tape and reports in his observations.

Alfred reports that a few hippies with guns are on the sixth floor. Gordon instantly deduces they are cops and packs up. Macho does not respond to Howard's communication. He finally responds and tells them they have been caught. Howard realizes he has a room key to the room Gordon and he are staying in. They pack in a hurry, fearing what's coming next for them. Howard is right in presuming the Cubans won't talk, but the episode ends as the police find the letter Howard gave Macho to post before going in. He clearly forgot it has Howard's name on it, which is addressed to the Lakewood Club.

The Writer's Wife

Season 1 Episode Number: 4 Season Episode: 4

Originally aired: Monday May 22, 2023

Writer: Alex Gregory, Peter Huyck

Director: David Mandel

Show Stars: Woody Harrelson (E. Howard Hunt), Justin Theroux (G. Gordon Liddy)
Guest Stars: Lena Headey (Dorothy Hunt), Domhnall Gleeson (John Dean), Judy

Greer (Fran Liddy), F. Murray Abraham (Judge John Sirica), Ike Barinholtz (Jeb Magruder), Corbin Bernsen (Richard Kleindienst), Kim Coates (Frank Sturgis), Toby Huss (James W. McCord Jr.), Liam James (John Hunt), David Krumholtz (William O. Bittman), Tony Plana (Eugenio Martinez), Kiernan Shipka (Kevan Hunt), Yul Vazquez (Bernard Barker), Zoe Levin (Lisa Hunt), Tre Ryder (David Hunt), Nelson Ascencio (Virgilio Gonzales), Neil Casey (Douglas Caddy), Prema Cruz (Michelle Clark), Marc Menchaca (Carl Shoffler), Joel Murray (Don), Jason Babinsky (Gerald Alch), Mary Looram (Liddy's Mother), Rick Crom (Courtroom Clerk), Thaddeus Daniels (Bailiff), Peter Mitchell (CREEP Staffer), Noah Kieserman (Dean's Aide), Winsome Brown (Hunt Horse Trainer), Rick Irwin (Barrett), Jim Santangeli (Leeper), Jonathan Gregg (Agent Jerome Dwyer), Jon Shaver (Agent Gene Mc-Neill), Jon Bander (DC Police Station Booking Officer), Ted Mattison (DC Police Detective), Ashley Brooke (Alexandra Liddy), Amaryllis Miller (Grace Liddy), Brayden Bratti (Tom Liddy), Jeremy Borgen (Jim Liddy), Theodore Helm (Raymond Liddy), Drew Moore (Golfer), Daniel Marmion (Suspicious Man), Jason Nuzzo (Man with Weird Toupée), Danielle Augustine (Gorgeous Stewardess), Jennifer Noble (Miami Stewardess), Sebastian Pilley (Paris Hotel Room Service Waiter), Paul DeBoy (Reporter), LeeAnne Hutchison (Reporter), Zac Jaffee (Reporter), Daralyn Jay (Reporter), Maximilian Clark (Reporter), Nathan Klau (Reporter), Iván Amaro Bullón (Custodian), David Neil Cohen (Taxi Driver), Andrew Spencer Dawson (TV News Anchor), Marla Freeman (White House Press), Robert Loftus (Reporter), Kevin Thomas (White House

Press)

Summary: Reeling from the arrests at the Watergate, Hunt enlists Saint John's

help to dispose of evidence, while Liddy warns the acting Attorney General that the burglaries can be tied back to the President. Later, after returning from Paris, a livid Dorothy must take control to protect

her family and the Liddys.

Howard and Gordon have contrasting reactions in the aftermath of the police arresting their Cuban burglars. The former is all panicky, taking St. John's help in dramatic style to get rid of all evidence. They wipe and throw everything into the river. The latter is calm, composed, and indifferent, willing to take it as it comes. Howard tells his entire family he works for the CIA. The men arrested demand legal counsel before they say anything. James McCord was under a fake name at the scene but is recognized by a friend at the station. That gets the ball rolling for the complete chaos waiting for us ahead.

Gordon pays Richard Keleinidinst a visit. He is the acting Attorney General for Mitchell. Richard had no idea about the ploy and the Committee to Re-Elect Nixon and posited it will not end well for them. The world mustn't find out until the next 48 hours. But of course, they

do. The news has already got out as Bob Woodward from Washington Post calls Howard for a comment. He decides to go into hiding in the underground bunker he has built in his house.



Magruder is panicking as well and is asked by Gordon to hire a lawyer. He is getting rid of all evidence, including shredding the money, as his FBI training kicks in. Speaking of the FBI, two agents pay Howard a visit but he chooses to stay hidden. Dorothy learns of the burglary in the papers but isn't able to reach Howard, who has asked the children not to pick up any calls. Gordon visits Howard in his bunker and tells him about shredding the money.

Howard's fickle financial condition prompts him to lash out at Gordon. Howard eagerly looks toward Gordon for comfort about the White House "taking care of them." Gordon triumphantly reinforces that Nixon believes in loyalty and will do so. Dorothy and Kevan come back through a sea of reporters waiting outside their house. They find Howard inside, who has stayed hidden from the press and federal agents till now. John Dean assures Gordon that Director Gray of the FBI will do their bidding in the investigation. All they need to do is keep their mouths shut and lay low.

It is revealed that Mark Felt is heading the investigation; the same Mark Felt that was present at the first meeting of the WHP at the WH. The former FBI genius believes that the break-in at Ellsberg's office is the bigger problem as the order came from the WH itself. Gordon offers his and Howard's sacrifice for that incident but wants assurances from Dean that "they will be taken care of." Dean is coy and flabbergasted at how delusional Gordon is about the scale of the situation.

Dorothy loses her wits at Howard in the privacy of their room. He professes to have a plan that involves Nicuraguian dictator Somoza. But Dorothy lives in the real world and says they need a lawyer to do damage control.

Howard meets with hotshot attorney William Bittman the next day. Dorothy is with him too. Gordon is meeting with Larue, Nixon's WH lawyer to discuss clemency. But Bittman doesn't see it as a viable opportunity. Dorothy makes it clear to Bittman that he must tell the "two-faced spineless politicians" at the WH that "loyalty is a two-way street."

Gordon and Fran, by comparison, are a hoot. She completely believes every word Gordon says about him making it scratchless out of this mess. Ironically, Larue's office is at the Watergate, marking the return of the prodigal son. Bittman relays a request from Mr Rivers, an unknown entity at this point, to talk with Dorothy, "the writer's wife"; not Howard. Dorothy deals with Rivers like a champ. He assures her that Howard and the Cubans will be dealt with but Gordon is on his own.

Howard says they will take care of Gordon from their cut of the money. He cannot leave his partner hanging. Dorothy moves the money around and distributes it among themselves, McCord, and Gordon. Howard and Dorothy aren't left with a lot after spreading it, with most of the money going into Bittman's pockets. The money eventually stops but McCord isn't surprised. While meeting with Dorothy, he claims that even though the cause of these politicians is righteous, they are themselves evil. All they care about is saving their own faces, even if it means putting men like McCord in the line of fire.

During dinner at Gordon's house, Howard reveals that they might get as much as half a million dollars for a book deal to tell their stories. They might not get the pardon even if Nixon gets reelected and this might secure them a golden nest. Gordon's rejection of the notion inspires a scathing no-nonsense response from Dorothy, who criticises his "honour among thieves" pride. Gordon reveals that the stewardess Howard was flirting with when they came back from Miami after the Ellsberg job, has just written to the FBI showing off Howard's book and handwritten note.

Dorothy confesses that they have been giving money to Gordon and Fran from their own pockets and now they are broke. How long will they be loyal to these powerful men?

The court proceedings begin and Judge Sirica (played by F. Murray Abraham) will be presiding over it. Gordon is no longer talking to Howard, who once again sends a message through Bittman

to the WH: "Get me more money." Dorothy reveals to St. John that this mess is her fault. She was going to leave Howard after she came back and hasn't kept him restrained.

Nixon wins the election comfortably and Dorothy is even more heartbroken that now he won't care for the men he got into trouble. The calendar has turned to December of 1972 and Dorothy announces his intention to separate from Howard. They accuse each other of infidelity and a lot more things, none more damaging than Dorothy's mention of Howard using St. John to destroy evidence. She has finally given up on holding the family together and waiting for Howard to "come around."

Howard drives away heartbroken. Dorothy is fine and unbeknownst to her husband, she is talking to Michelle Clark, a CBS news reporter on the plane. She defiantly protects Howard's image, even as she is separating from him. As Clark asks Dorothy about Howard's involvement in JFK's assassination, their plane crashes. Howard makes pancakes and ignores the ringing phone with the tragic news.

True Believers

Season 1 Episode Number: 5 Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Monday May 29, 2023 Writer: Alex Gregory, Peter Huyck

Director: David Mandel

Show Stars: Woody Harrelson (E. Howard Hunt), Justin Theroux (G. Gordon Liddy)
Guest Stars: Lena Headey (Dorothy Hunt), Domhnall Gleeson (John Dean), Judy

Greer (Fran Liddy), F. Murray Abraham (Judge John Sirica), Kim Coates (Frank Sturgis), Toby Huss (James W. McCord Jr.), Liam James (John Hunt), David Krumholtz (William O. Bittman), Tony Plana (Eugenio Martinez), Peter Serafinowicz (William F. Buckley Jr.), Kiernan Shipka (Kevan Hunt), Yul Vazquez (Bernard Barker), Zoe Levin (Lisa Hunt), Tre Ryder (David Hunt), Nelson Ascencio (Virgilio Gonzales), Steven Bauer (Dr. Manuel Artime), Neil Casey (Douglas Caddy), Peter Grosz (Earl Silbert), Robert Smigel (Inmate Friedman), Craig Wroe (Priest at Dorothy's Funeral), Ken Wharton (Dorothy Mourner), Doug Trapp (Tom Chapman), Julie Hays (Mary the Hunt's Maid), Jason Babinsky (Gerald Alch), Rick Crom (Courtroom Clerk), Thaddeus Daniels (Bailiff), Alex Weisman (U.S. District Court Aide), Mary Looram (Liddy's Mother), Kisha Barr (Dean's Secretary), DeLaney Westfall (Maureen Dean), Rose Jackson Smith (Stage Manager), Richard James Porter (Provost), Daralyn Jay (Reporter), Maximilian Clark (Reporter), Nathan Klau (Reporter), LeeAnne Hutchison (Reporter), Gregory Dann (D.C. Jail Intake Guard), David Eilers (D.C. Jail Intake Guard), Johnny Biehle (D.C. Jail Guard), Jimmy Gary Jr. (D.C. Jail Guard), Omar Evans (D.C. Jail Inmate), Daniel Tirado (D.C. Jail Inmate), Colin Kilkenny (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate), Liam James Daniels (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate), Hector Lincoln (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate), Bill Cwikowski (D.C. Jail Elderly Inmate), Johnny Rivera (Hector the Danbury Inmate), Shawn Hopseker (Detective), Jared J Johnson (Reporter / Photographer 1), Bill Ricciardelli (Frank Sturgis' Lawyer), Kevin Thomas (White House Press), Vincent Tumeo (Country Club Member),

Dan Verkman (Reporter)

Summary: Amid rumors of the White House's involvement, Liddy shares his con-

cerns about Hunt's stability with John Dean and tries to make a deal. Hunt's daughter Kevan leverages a secret notebook to convince her fa-

ther to come clean in his Senate testimony.

The episode picks up in the aftermath of Dorothy's death in the plane crash. Although the chatter about it hasn't picked up yet, a conspiracy is nrewing. At the funeral, St. John dedicates a song to her mother and breaks down, needing consoling from Lisa. Gordon is apprehensive that Howard is nearing his breaking point and won't keep silent about the White House's involvement.

At Dorothy's funeral lunch, we meet David's — Howard and Dorothy's youngest son — godfather, Dr Artime, whom Howard refers to as the person who should have been Cuba's president. And in addition, William Buckley Jr, the host of Firing Line, a popular reality tv show. Fran is worried about him but Howard assures her that he will be looked after. McCord knocks at their door, having brought a casserole for the family.

Before departing, he mentions the possibility that Dorothy was killed by the WH, as Bud Krogh, whom we met in the first episode, is named the new undersecretary of transportation.



McCord alleges that this appointment and the crash are not a coincidence. Howard doesn't think too much of it yet, but the seed of doubt is planted. He discusses with Gordon the \$200k insurance policy Dorothy took out for herself before going onto the plane. Howard also alleges that the "FBI beat the firemen to the spot of the crash," which is highly unusual. Usually, first, the firemen reach the spot. They then call the NTSB, who then calls the FBI, "only if they find something suspicious." That's the procedure.

Later that night, Howard, without telling Kevan anything, hands her a register. It contains details of the payments, maintained by Dorothy, that the family received from the WH. The next morning, Gordon calls John Dean and expresses his reservations about Howard. Dean assures him that the WH will keep making annual payments to the plumbers plus living expenses. They will also be doing two years of jail time before receiving a Presidential pardon. In the most unexpected — yet, deep down expected — moment of the series, Gordon offers "prophylactic action" against Howard. But Dean shuts him down.

Nixon makes a public announcement, distancing the administration and the WH in this political espionage scandal. John Dean is tasked with conducting an investigation on the West Wing staff. The court trials finally begin. Gordon, Howard, the Cubans, Frank, and McCord are on trial for the burglary and attempted bugging of the DNC office. Judge Sirica is eagerly looking forward to the trial.

But he loses faith in Silbert, the government prosecutor when he starts his arguments with ulterior financial motives. After the first day, the accused meet for lunch and Gordon communicates Dean's message to all of them. Howard goes with Bittman, his lawyer, to meet Silbert for evidence discovery. To his utmost shock, Howard realizes that Dean, before handing over the evidence to Silbert, has excluded diaries tying the WH to the burglary and the Fieldings job in LA. Dean protected himself by taking out the GEMSTONE file from Howard's safe.

This means that the leverage the plumbers had is gone. Gordon and Howard will have to take the fall for the entire thing. Jan 30th 1973, in the final hearing before the decision, Howard and Gordon testify that the WH was not involved in the process. The hearing on March 23rd of the same year brings forth another shocking revelation. McCord has personally written to the judge implicating the WH and striking a deal with the prosecution for cooperation. Everyone except him is sentenced to do lengthy jail time.

McCord has also named people working close to the President like Dean and Mitchell. Gordon is chipper in the jail, while the others are unsure of their fate. According to Gordon, the only men McCord can implicate are himself and Howard, since he had no direct contact with the WH. In the investigation by the Senate, McCord implicates John Dean in the crimes as well. He also names Dorothy and the Committee to Re-Elect Nixon as the sources of money he received.

Lisa and St. John are shocked to learn that Howard has sold the house. This happens when Buckley and Artime show up, taking custody of David. The children visit Howard in jail and confront him about their situation. He tries to reassure them that he will take care of them, but they aren't convinced.

Lisa also tells him that Dean has made a deal with the WH. It turns out that Nixon was recording his meetings in the aftermath of the arrests and trying to implicate them to save his own face.

Howard is extremely anxious and has a stroke. In the infirmary, he is greeted by Kevan. She has come to check up on him but also threatens the guy. She read the ledger of accounts and is angry at Howard for not keeping his family's interests above the country's. Her ultimatum puts Howard in a tricky predicament. Gordon is brought out to testify in court. In the waiting room, he runs into Dean but the meeting is awkward as Dean tries to justify his move.

He also suggests that Nixon was ready to pin everything on Gordon due to his unwavering loyalty, but in a negative way. Gordon barely prevents himself from stabbing Dean with a sharpened pencil. Back in prison, Gordon is still unwilling to talk. However, Howard's stance has

completely changed. He feels regret after what Kevan said about not caring about his family. He even blames his choices and says they led to Dorothy's death. He puts himself in Gordon's firing line by admitting he will cooperate with the prosecution and get out.

They have a fight where both say nasty things. Gordon blames Howard for taking more money than required to maintain his "phoney lifestyle," while Howard calls Gordon a "failed FBI agent and politician" and suggests he take the deal too. He also cites the fact that Daniel Ellsberg, who was charged with leaking important Pentagon files in episode 1, is also a free man. Howard's testimony in front of the Senate Committee doesn't necessarily go according to plan.

Other graver events, like Ehrlichmann's implication and VP Agnew's scandal, have taken precedence in mass media. Is Howard too late to join the party? It definitely seems so. Dean has done all the things Howard could have done; cooperated with the testimony, written a book, and had a tv series made on it. Fran beseeches Gordon to take the deal and come home with an early release. But Gordon is unwavering in his will to stay mum. Gordon receives a standing ovation from inmates after his continued efforts in their interests start materializing.

Gordon is overwhelmed with the reception and starts reciting a German song, while doing the "Heil Hitler" salute, having just ensured Kosher meals for a Jewish inmate, who started the rousing applause. That is White House Plumbers in a nutshell! And apparently, it is all true.

Almost a year later, Howard, now in a minimum security prison, finds out that Nixon has resigned. 49 people were found guilty in Watergate. Howard served two and a half years in prison, and may/may not have admitted to Kennedy's assassination on his deathbed. Gordon served about five years and had his sentence commuted by President Carter.

Actor Appearances

Δ	0101 (Protester)
Λ	Maximilian Clark
F. Murray Abraham	0104 (Reporter); 0105 (Reporter) Stephen Clark
0104 (Judge John Sirica); 0105 (Judge John Sirica)	1
Adinah Alexander	0102 (Cannonball Guy)
0102 (Hunt's Mullen Secretary)	Comfort Clinton
Nikki Annunziata	0102 (Crystal)
0103 (Parisian Airplane Passenger)	Kim Coates
Nelson Ascencio5	0101 (Frank Sturgis); 0102 (Frank Sturgis); 0103
0101 (Virgilio Gonzales); 0102 (Virgilio Gonzales);	(Frank Sturgis); 0104 (Frank Sturgis); 0109
0103 (Virgilio Gonzales); 0104 (Virgilio Gon-	(Frank Sturgis)
zales); 0105 (Virgilio Gonzales)	David Neil Cohen
Danielle Augustine1	0104 (Taxi Driver)
0104 (Gorgeous Stewardess)	Gary Cole
_	0101 (Mark Felt)
B	Rick Crom
р	0104 (Courtroom Clerk); 0105 (Courtroom Clerk)
	Prema Cruz
Jason Babinsky2	0104 (Michelle Clark)
0104 (Gerald Alch); 0105 (Gerald Alch)	Bill Cwikowski
Jon Bander1	0105 (D.C. Jail Elderly Inmate)
0104 (DC Police Station Booking Officer)	
Matt Barats1	D
0103 (Tom Gregory)	D
Ike Barinholtz3	I ! I D!-1-
0102 (Jeb Magruder); 0103 (Jeb Magruder); 0104	Liam James Daniels
(Jeb Magruder)	0105 (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate)
Kisha Barr3	Thaddeus Daniels
0102 (Dean's Secretary); 0103 (Dean's Secretary);	0104 (Bailiff); 0105 (Bailiff)
0105 (Dean's Secretary)	Daniel Danielson
Steven Bauer 1	0103 (Head Waiter)
0105 (Dr. Manuel Artime)	Gregory Dann
Corbin Bernsen	0105 (D.C. Jail Intake Guard)
0104 (Richard Kleindienst)	Andrew Spencer Dawson
Johnny Biehle	0102 (TV News Anchor); 0104 (TV News Anchor)
0105 (D.C. Jail Guard)	Paul DeBoy
Jeremy Borgen	0104 (Reporter)
0101 (Jim Liddy); 0104 (Jim Liddy)	Victor Dobro
Brayden Bratti	0103 (MPDC Officer D'Herde)
0101 (Tom Liddy); 0104 (Tom Liddy)	Kevin Dorff
Ashley Brooke	0103 (Fred Jessup)
0101 (Alexandra Liddy); 0104 (Alexandra Liddy)	Jim Downey
Winsome Brown	0101 (Spencer Oliver)
0104 (Hunt Horse Trainer)	
Iván Amaro Bullón	——— E ———
0104 (Custodian)	L
0104 (Custodian)	Dovid Etlana
	David Eilers
C	0105 (D.C. Jail Intake Guard)
	Omar Evans
Doreen Calderon	0105 (D.C. Jail Inmate)
0101 (LA Cleaning Woman)	
Katlyn Carlson 1	—— F ——
0102 (Tawny)	
Neil Casey	Bobby Favoretto
0104 (Douglas Caddy); 0105 (Douglas Caddy)	0101 (Sketch Artist)
Natalie Cassell	Brian Foreman
0101 (Pedestrian)	0103 (Photographer)
Gwenyth Clark 1	Marla Freeman

0104 (White House Press)	Liam James
——— G ———	Hunt); 0104 (John Hunt); 0105 (John Hunt)
G.	Daralyn Jay
Jimmy Gary Jr1	Jared J Johnson
0105 (D.C. Jail Guard)	0105 (Reporter / Photographer 1)
Jon Glaser	Valerie V. Johnson
Domhnall Gleeson	0103 (Watergate Maid)
0101 (John Dean); 0102 (John Dean); 0103 (John	T.7
Dean); 0104 (John Dean); 0105 (John Dean)	——— K ———
Judy Greer 4	
0101 (Fran Liddy); 0102 (Fran Liddy); 0104 (Fran Liddy); 0105 (Fran Liddy)	Rick Kain
Jonathan Gregg	Michael Cruz Kayne
0104 (Agent Jerome Dwyer) Tristan Griffin	Ben Kennedy1
0102 (Louis)	0103 (Airline Passenger)
Harry Groener	Noah Kieserman
0102 (Senator Phillip Hart)	0101 (Dean's Aide); 0104 (Dean's Aide)
Peter Grosz	Colin Kilkenny
0105 (Earl Silbert) Joe Gulla	0105 (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate) Nathan Klau2
0101 (Miami Cafe Patron)	0104 (Reporter); 0105 (Reporter)
of of (main care ration)	Patrick Klein1
——— Н ————	0103 (FBI Agent)
11	David Krumholtz2
Gavin Haag1	0104 (William O. Bittman); 0105 (William O. Bittman)
0101 (CIA Agent)	τ
Henry Hall1	——— L ———
0101 (Beverly Hilton Valet)	
Julie Hays	Gabriel Lawrence
0101 (Mary the Hunt's Maid); 0103 (Mary the Hunt's	0103 (Watergate Security Officer) Zoe Levin
Maid); 0105 (Mary the Hunt's Maid)	0101 (Lisa Hunt); 0102 (Lisa Hunt); 0103 (Lisa Hunt);
Lena Headey	0104 (Lisa Hunt); 0105 (Lisa Hunt)
(Dorothy Hunt); 0104 (Dorothy Hunt); 0105	Joel Van Liew1
(Dorothy Hunt)	0101 (David Young)
Theodore Helm2	Hector Lincoln1
0101 (Raymond Liddy); 0104 (Raymond Liddy)	0105 (D.C. Jail Welcoming Inmate)
Ed Herbstman	Robert Loftus
0103 (Watergate Office Guard) Peter Herrick	Mary Looram
0103 (Cosmos Club Member)	0104 (Liddy's Mother); 0105 (Liddy's Mother)
Brit Herring 1	Isaac Loyal 2
0103 (Man in Suit)	0101 (Protester); 0102 (Whitehouse Staff)
Deb Hiett	John Carroll Lynch
0101 (Susan the Photo Taker)	0102 (John Mitchell); 0103 (John Mitchell)
Jacqueline Honulik	Nπ
0103 (Stewardess) Shawn Hopseker	M
0105 (Detective)	J.P. Manoux
Toby Huss5	0101 (Robert Mardian)
0101 (James W. McCord Jr.); 0102 (James W. Mc-	Daniel Marmion1
Cord Jr.); 0103 (James W. McCord Jr.); 0104	0104 (Suspicious Man)
(James W. McCord Jr.); 0105 (James W. Mc-	Ted Mattison
Cord Jr.) LeeAnne Hutchison	0104 (DC Police Detective)
0104 (Reporter); 0105 (Reporter)	Marc Menchaca
	0103 (Carl Shoffler); 0104 (Carl Shoffler) Amaryllis Miller
I	0101 (Grace Liddy); 0104 (Grace Liddy)
1	Jesse Milliner1
Rick Irwin	0103 (Pedestrian)
0103 (Barrett); 0104 (Barrett)	DeLance Minefee
	0103 (Waiter)
I	Peter Mitchell
9	0102 (CREEP Staffer); 0103 (CREEP Staffer); 0104 (CREEP Staffer)
Zac Jaffee1	Anita Moore
0104 (Reporter)	0103 (Watergate Guest)

Drew Moore	Ashleigh Sites
Van Moore	Robert Smigel
0103 (Watergate Hotel Doorman)	0105 (Inmate Friedman)
Joel Murray 2	Rose Jackson Smith
0102 (Don); 0104 (Don)	0105 (Stage Manager)
	Rich Sommer
N	0101 (Egil Krogh)
Storio Nolcon	Т
Stevie Nelson	1
Jennifer Noble	Kevin Thomas4
0104 (Miami Stewardess)	0102 (White House Press); 0103 (White House Press)
Jason Nuzzo1	0104 (White House Press); 0105 (White House
0104 (Man with Weird Toupée)	Press)
	Daniel Tirado1
0	0105 (D.C. Jail Inmate)
	William G. Tomek
Elizabeth O'Donnell1	Alex Torres
0101 (Krogh's Secretary)	0102 (Cuban Band Leader)
Zak Orth1	Doug Trapp
0103 (Alfred C. Baldwin III)	0102 (Tom Chapman); 0105 (Tom Chapman)
ח	Vincent Tumeo3
P	0101 (Country Club Member); 0102 (Country Club Member); 0105 (Country Club Member)
Chris Palermo1	Kathleen Turner1
0101 (Dr. Fielding)	0102 (Dita Beard)
David Pasquesi	T 7
0103 (James Jesus Angleton) Emily Pendergast	V
0102 (Edwina)	
Sebastian Pilley	Alexis Valdés
0104 (Paris Hotel Room Service Waiter)	0101 (Felipe De Diego); 0102 (Felipe De Diego); 0103
Tony Plana 5	(Felipe De Diego)
0101 (Eugenio Martinez); 0102 (Eugenio Martinez);	Yul Vazquez
0103 (Eugenio Martinez); 0104 (Eugenio Mar-	0101 (Bernard Barker); 0102 (Bernard Barker); 0103 (Bernard Barker); 0104 (Bernard Barker); 0105
tinez); 0105 (Eugenio Martinez)	(Bernard Barker)
Richard James Porter	Dan Verkman2
0103 (Flovost)	0101 (Pedestrian); 0105 (Reporter)
R	117
	—— W ——
Bill Ricciardelli	W I A W
0105 (Frank Sturgis' Lawyer)	Marla Aaron Wapner
Johnny Rivera	Alex Weisman
0105 (Hector the Danbury Inmate) Eddie K. Robinson	0105 (U.S. District Court Aide)
0103 (Frank Wills)	DeLaney Westfall1
William Rodriguez1	0105 (Maureen Dean)
0102 (Cuban Vocalist)	Ken Wharton
Milton Roy1	0105 (Dorothy Mourner)
0102 (Miguel Cuban military Man)	Craig Wroe
Tre Ryder5	0105 (Priest at Dorothy's Funeral)
0101 (David Hunt); 0102 (David Hunt); 0103 (David	
Hunt); 0104 (David Hunt); 0105 (David Hunt)	
S	
T. O. J	
Jim Santangeli	
0103 (Leeper); 0104 (Leeper) Peter Serafinowicz	
0105 (William F. Buckley Jr.)	
Jon Shaver 1	
0104 (Agent Gene McNeill)	
Kiernan Shipka 3	
0103 (Kevan Hunt); 0104 (Kevan Hunt); 0105 (Ke-	
van Hunt)	
Doug Simpson	