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Millionaire H.L. Hunt Talks Politics

BY VERA GLASER

Chicago Daily News Service

ATLANTIC CITY — One of the world's richest men is holed up here in a shoddy hotel room, watching the Democratic convention on a scratchy rented TV set.

He is H. L. Hunt of Dallas, who's worth an estimated \$700,000,000, give or take a few oil wells.

Without batting an eye, he suggested we go out to dinner — at a cafeteria. We settled for a \$9.65 dinner (for both of us) in his hotel room — plus a \$2 tip.

He talked politics, mostly from a reclining position, and confided he won't give one thin dime to the presidential campaign of Lyndon Johnson or Barry Goldwater.

HUNT'S extensive right-wing activities have convinced some that Goldwater is his man but he insisted that he won't make his choice known until shortly before election day.

At one point he observed: "My being for Johnson or Goldwater might cost one of them 200,000 to 300,000 votes."



H. L. HUNT

Totes his own luggage.

Asked why he is in Atlantic City, Hunt said, "I go to conventions. I went to the Los Angeles Democratic convention in 1960 for the purpose of getting Johnson nominated. I went from there to Chicago to try to keep Henry Cabot Lodge from getting the vice presidential nomination."

Hunt also appeared at the Republican convention in San

Francisco last month and earlier at the Cleveland governors' conference.

HUNT FLEW into Atlantic City on the second day of this dull convention and went directly to Haddon Hall, a fading Boardwalk hotel, where he had been booked into minimum-priced Room 910 under an assumed name. He resisted a bellhop's efforts to carry his bag.

I was taken to Hunt by Earle B. Mayfield Jr., a Dallas attorney whose card reads "Practice restricted to oil, gas and tax matters."

Mayfield and two other men received me in a hotel room two floors below Hunt's. One was "Pete" White of Dallas, a lawyer. The other, a man named Dwiggins who works for the federal government in El Paso, was described as an old "college mate" of President Johnson.

When I asked if the trio were on Hunt's staff, all three hesitated, then said no. "I'm just a friend of the family," Mayfield said. When he phoned 910, we were told to come up at once.

HUNT IS soft-spoken, friendly and humorous. A tall,

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