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The City

Body of Queens Man Linked to the C.I.A. Is Exhumed in Maine

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By JOSEPH B. TREASTER

The body of a Queens man linked to the resignation of an official of the Central Intelligence Agency was exhumed yesterday from a cemetery in southwestern Maine after two days of unsuccessful legal maneuvering by the man's family.

The body was taken to the Kennebec Medical Center in Augusta, Me., where an autopsy was begun by the Chief Medical Examiner for New York City, Dr. Elliot M. Gross.

The man, Dennis McNeil, 41 years old, collapsed at his home after jogging on June 1 and later died at Elmhurst General Hospital in Queens. No autopsy was performed and he was buried two days later in the annex of the Forest Hill Cemetery in the resort town of Bridgton.

Six weeks later, however, authorities began to suspect that Mr. McNeil might have been a victim of foul play.

Two of his brothers told The Washington Post that Max C. Hugel, who was then the chief of covert operations for the Central Intelligence Agency, had illegally given them stock market information. Mr. Hugel resigned after denying the allegations, and the two brothers, Thomas R. McNeil and Samuel F. McNeil, disappeared.

Within a few days, the Federal Bureau of Investigation said it believed the two brothers had taken with them more than \$3 million in funds from a company that Thomas R. McNeil had founded.

At about the same time, a former business associate of the McNeil family told The Chicago Tribune that Dennis McNeil had been "abducted and beaten" twice before his collapse in New York.

The former associate said he viewed the beatings as "a warning for the McNells to cool it with Hugel."

In a review of Dennis McNeil's medical records, Dr. Gross, the Medical Examiner, noted that Mr. McNeil had died of a "possible ruptured spleen."

In a letter to John J. Santucci, the Queens District Attorney, requesting that the body be exhumed for an autopsy, Dr. Gross said that a ruptured spleen was "often the result of a criminal act."