

## Illegal Activities in Canada Par

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The Washington Post

OTTAWA—Bugging, break-ins, mail tampering, an enemies list and other illegal activities of Canada's security forces are coming to light here daily in a flood of revelations confronting Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

The disclosures, all too familiar to Americans, also include illicit use of medical and income tax records, arson and a variety of "dirty tricks," all contributing to the spectacle of a Canadian version of Watergate.

Like the administration of former President Richard M. Nixon, the Trudeau government seems to have given tacit approval to these actions outside the law in the name of national security.

And like Nixon, Trudeau has decided to stonewall it. Each new disclosure of police wrongdoing is followed by a brief and grudging acknowledgement that irregularities did take place and that the matter will be investigated by a commission appointed by Trudeau.

Neither Trudeau nor any of his ministers admit any prior knowledge of police wrongdoings. Nor do they accept responsibility for them. Meanwhile, the Security Service of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is reliably reported to have been burning its files during the last three weeks.

The parallel with the Nixon White House is all the more striking as Trudeau's defense oscillates between the "third-rate burglary" theme and a refusal to disclose relevant documents on grounds of "national security."

But the similarity ends there. The manner in which the Canadian "Watergate" is unraveling points to a fundamental differ-

speaking Canadian tends to side with Trudeau and the Mounties despite the outraged editorials in many Canadian newspapers and the accusations by Trudeau's political opposition.

An executive of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., the government-owned radio and television network, which has been one of the leaders in revealing the wrongdoings of the Mounties, said that more than 80% of all telephone calls the network received favored Trudeau and the Mounted Police. And an aide to Jeb Baldwin, one of the Conservative critics of the government, said his office had not received a single letter from constituents about the affair.

"We had a lot of mail on the gun-control issue and on social security matters," the aide added.

This prevailing attitude has deepened French Canadian suspicions, especially among Parti Quebecois supporters who believe that the revelations represent only a small part of a large police operation directed against advocates of a sovereign Quebec. "It's just the tip of the iceberg," Jean-Pierre Charbonneau, a prominent party official, said.

Jean Rivard, a young journalist for Tele-Media, a French-language network in Quebec, who broke some of the most important stories about Mounted Police activities, believes that the disclosures thus far have severely damaged the federal government's credibility in the province.

The disclosures confirmed by the government included:

—Mounted Police agents had illegally broken into a Montreal office in January, 1973, and made off with Parti Quebecois records and membership lists.

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