

McGovern Accuses Nixon

By George Lardner Jr.
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NEW YORK, Oct. 19—Sen. George McGovern charged today that President Nixon "is up to his ears in political sabotage" despite denials from the White House.

"They're really a cut-throat crew the way they operate," McGovern said of those involved in the President's re-election effort. And as President, he said of Mr. Nixon, "he's got to take the responsibility."

The democratic presidential candidate made his remarks to newsmen outside Toledo's Hillcrest Hotel and later at the Toledo airport where he embarked this morning for a round of campaigning here and in Pennsylvania.

Presidential press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler denied Wednesday that anyone in the White House had directed spying or sabotage against democratic candidates. He said

"anyone who would have been involved would no longer be around here."

Asked for comment, McGovern called Ziegler's disclaimer "a total fabrication."

"They've sent out forged letters over the names of Democratic candidates, wiretapped their phones, had us followed, members of our families followed, shadowed all the time," McGovern declared.

"Somebody said they've taken crime out of the streets and put it in the suites," the South Dakota senator said.

McGovern offered no documentation of his own for his complaint that Democratic presidential candidates and members of their families had been "shadowed."

His press secretary, Richard Dougherty, told reporters that the senator was basing that allegation on news stories published in The Washington Post. Dougherty declined a news-

man's request to check with McGovern's Secret Service detail to see if they had any knowledge of attempts to follow McGovern or his family.

The White House had refused to comment earlier in the week on published accounts linking Mr. Nixon's appointments secretary, Dwight Chapin, with a key figure in the reported sabotage and spying operation, California attorney Donald Segretti. Ziegler described his denial Wednesday as "an assertion" stemming from his knowledge of "what is tolerated or condoned in the White House."

Sticking to his strategy of concentrating on states with the biggest populations — and shares of the electoral vote — McGovern flew from Toledo to Philadelphia for a labor rally in suburban Easington and a campus speech at Chaney State College some 17 miles north of Philadelphia. For the unionists, the Demo-

of 'Political Sabotage'

cratic candidate stepped up his attacks on the corruption issue, apparently in an effort to overcome the reluctance of many voters to blame Mr. Nixon personally for the Watergate break-in. In the past, McGovern has confined himself largely to attacks on the "Nixon administration" in connection with the alleged bugging attempt.

Today, he tore into Mr. Nixon directly.

"... If that kind of thing is allowed to continue in this country and we permit the President to stand outside and take no responsibility for it," the 50-year-old South Dakota senator warned, "then I tremble for the future of America."

"A President who will send his agents over to wiretap (the) Democratic National Committee, a President who will send saboteurs inside the Democratic ranks to try to sabotage another national party, that is the kind of a

man who won't hesitate to wiretap your union hall, or your law office, or your university, your church or even your home," McGovern said.

"This man (Mr. Nixon) has no respect for constitutional government and personal freedom."

The workers, packed into the small headquarters building of Local 107 of the United Electrical Workers, applauded warmly as McGovern spoke.

McGovern, however, made a far bigger hit at the campus rally at Chaney State College where he ignored the Watergate incident and concentrated instead on the war in Vietnam. The college is predominantly black, but students from more than half a dozen nearby colleges and universities also were invited. The audience of more than 3,000 seemed to draw slightly more whites than blacks on a first-come, first-admitted basis.

Introduced in the school gym by Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.) as "a man with compassion... a man who is not afraid to stand up and be counted," McGovern drew a thunderous response from the crowd as soon as he stepped onstage. Contrasting Mr. Nixon's vetoes of various pieces of educational legislation with the administration's conduct of the war, the balding ex-college teacher told the students:

"We're using too much money to blow up schools in Southeast Asia." A McGovern administration, he promised, would spend it on building them at home.

McGovern wound up his day here with a rally in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of

Brooklyn and a brief stop at the annual Al Smith dinner in Manhattan.

McGovern at first decided not to attend the dinner, rather than accept Vice President Agnew as an appropriate foe on the speaking circuit. The Vice President had been sent to the dinner in Mr. Nixon's place.

McGovern aides said their candidate needed time out anyway to give filmmaker Charles Guggenheim a chance to refine portions of McGovern's 30-minute economic message which will be telecast Friday.