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Nixon-Audit NL 220

WASHINGTON AP - President Nixon has asked all of his staff and the staff of the Committee to Re-elect the President to cooperate in the current investigations stemming from the break-in incident at Democratic National Committee headquarters June 17.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said "the President's view is that all those asked to cooperate should cooperate."

The statement came on the heels of a General Accounting Office announcement that it will begin a full audit of Nixon's campaign finances in connection with the break-in investigation.

The director of the GAO's office of federal elections, Philip S. Hughes, said he was ordering the audit because of possible links between Nixon campaign financing and the break-in and alleged bugging at Democratic National Committee offices in the post Watergate complex.

Hughes said that audit was called for because of reports in a Washington Post story that \$25,000, apparently earmarked for the President's campaign fund, ended up in the bank account of one of five men arrested in the incident.

The White House, Warren said, would continue its policy of not commenting on the case while it is under investigation by appropriate agencies.

He was asked if Nixon's order to cooperate applied to the staff of the Committee to Re-elect the President as well as Nixon's own staff. "It does indeed," Warren said.

He was asked if it also applied to Charles W. Colson, special counsel to the President who has been mentioned in connection with the investigation. Warren said he would not want to relate it to any individual member of the White House staff.

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