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Watergate Albums Hit Market

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Watergate break-in is being investigated and the voice of Mort Sahl is once again heard in the land.

Sahl, now 46, has a new LP out, his 11th, made and processed in 17 days, called "Sing a Song of Watergate," on GNP Crescendo. It isn't the only recording about Watergate — in fact there's a flood of them. But before we list some of the others, we'll chat with Sahl.

Sahl talks fast, skips quickly from one subject to another, smiles engagingly, tells facts, opinions and one-line jokes,

shooting, as he says, at both sides. He has thoroughly digested that day's newspapers, which provide him with material for comment.

He made the record, he says, "Because I want to have a hand in what goes on in this country, good or bad. I'm not Jack Parr. I don't retire. I want to be as active on as many fronts as possible until I'm dead.

"I lean to the left to correct the drift in my country. If they continue to attack Nixon I'll have to defend him to restore the balance. You want to know

my politics? I'm floating in-orbit until I'm cleared for landing. I just have to keep attacking people, shoot on both sides.

"I've known Nixon 20 years. One time at a dinner in Los Angeles in 1964 he said, 'You have an epic chance to be Will Rogers. If you remember to keep a fire under our behind as well as theirs, you can make us honest.' I doubt that; it's too late for that; but those were his words. I don't know what happens to Bob Hope in that instance.

"Our job, as comedians, is to take national tragedy in Amer-

ica and make it funny. Example — World War II was not funny. Bill Mauldin drew a cartoon of two officers in Italy looking at the sunset and one said, 'What a beautiful view. Do the enlisted men have one, too?' and made a grim subject funny. I make people laugh at the government's blundering efforts to suppress evidence. People are much more open to the truth when they're laughing."