

Raid Has 'Mission Impossible'

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The raid against the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee was carried out with all the gadgetry and imagination of television's "Mission Impossible" — except for the one incredible blunder that led to the arrest of five suspects.

When arrested by Washington police early Saturday morning in the sixth floor offices of the committee, the suspects allegedly had three transistor microphones with an estimated sending range of about 150 yards. One of the "bugs" was a type that could be activated by the sound of an ordinary wristwatch. But authorities said none of the listening devices had been concealed or emplaced for use.

The "bugs," it was pointed out, would easily have carried transmissions as far as Rooms 314 and 214 in the Watergate Hotel, just across and below the Democratic committee headquarters. Four of the suspects were registered in those rooms under false names.

The suspects also had two 35 millimeter cameras and a Minnox, the German-make "spy" camera that fits in a watch pocket. Police seized 36 rolls of film, but the film had not been exposed and police deduced that the suspects had not had time to photograph any documents.

Walkie-Talkies Seized

Reporters learned that the cameras had been equipped with clamps of the sort used to attach photographic equipment firmly for copying documents. Investigators also impounded a sun lamp and the deduction was that this was intended to provide the high-intensity lighting necessary for taking pictures of documents.

Also seized with the suspects were two walkie-talkie radios set for the Miami public service frequency and a miniature receiver. This equipment confirmed some investigators' suspicion that a sixth man may have been involved in the foray. One source said, "Why would they need walkie talkies unless there was someone else with whom they intended to communicate?" The Watergate guard who summoned police reportedly said he saw a sixth man as he made his rounds before discovery of the break-in.

A strong indicator of a sixth participant came when police found a roll of masking tape in one of the suspects' rooms similar to the tape used to keep locks from closing on doors leading from the basement garage to the fire staircase. There was speculation it had been brought back to the room by a sixth man.

It was learned today that at least six men, including all of the suspects except a Rockville man, James McCord, are listed as being registered at the Watergate Hotel once previously between May 26 and May 29. At the conclusion of that stay, police sources said, the hotel was paid in cash by a man identified only as E. Warren.

These sources indicated that they have no further information on the man but speculated that E. Warren might be another alias used by McCord.

Guard Frank Wills discovered the taped locks between midnight and 1 a.m. Saturday and said he first thought building engineers had done it. Police described the taping as a clumsy job, easily seen by anyone who passed by. He removed the tape from the doors.

It was when he returned to recheck the doors and discov-

ered they had been taped again that Wills called Metropolitan Police and the suspects were trapped in hiding in the Democratic headquarters.

Authorities were inclined to regard the failure of the suspects to flee and the retaping of the locks either as a mark of amateurism or stupidity. Investigators were at a loss to explain why the foray was not broken off when it was discovered that the first of tapings had been removed.

In the Watergate parking garage, police found a 1972 Chrysler with Virginia tags belonging to The Avis national auto rental agency. Investigators impounded the car on the basis of the suspicion that the auto was rented by the suspects. It later was returned to the rental agency.

Deputy Police Chief Charles Wright said it has been determined that the car was rented at National Airport about 4 p.m. on Friday with a credit card in the name of Bernard L. Barker of 5229 NW 4th street, Miami. Barker is one of the five suspects in custody.

Chief Wright also said four of the five suspects arrived at National Airport by plane at about that time last Friday. Police believe these four met McCord here after their arrival.

Another mysterious touch was discovery in the rented car of a Washington city map on which someone had carefully marked out a route between the Watergate and the intersection of 20th St. and Massachusetts Avenue NW.

The significance of 20th and Massachusetts in the case is not known to authorities investigating the case, so far as can be discovered. The precise route marked on the street map was not divulged.

Police said, contrary to earlier published reports, that no

explosive devices were found on the suspects, in their rooms or in the car.

Authorities have not determined what was accomplished by the intruders amid the maze of desks and filing cabinets at Democratic headquarters. Some filing cabinets, police said, had been forced open. One of the suspects had in his possession an application blank of the kind the Democratic National Committee has been sending to selected college newspapers for issuance of credentials to the campus press for the convention in Miami July 10 through 14.

Also found on one of the suspects by police, according to one source, was a committee memorandum on procedures for issuing college press credentials, and another memo on how the DNC staff would proceed to Miami.

A spokesman said that the intruders entered the office of Philip Seib, an aide working on youth activities, and were found in the office of Marie Cunningham, secretary to Stanley Greigg, deputy committee chairman.

Mohbat said there was no indication Greigg's office was entered. He said that the committee's financial records are located in an office at the other end of the sixth floor office area and also was not entered.

About 60 members of the committee staff met today "to talk about just being careful around here," Mohbat said. Greigg said they should be doubly sure of the identity of volunteers in the offices, make sure they know persons working close to them and avoid lending or duplicating office keys.

Like the fictional operatives of "Mission Impossible," the five suspects were elaborately

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equipped when seized by police as they tried to hide at the scene of the crime.

Police said each of the men was wearing rubber surgical gloves, and reportedly none of their fingerprints was found on the premises. They had pens containing a chemical irritant. They also had lock-picking devices, along with the array of bugging equipment, cameras, several small batteries, walkie-talkie radios and about \$5,300, mostly in \$100 bills.

The \$100 bills, according to police, have consecutive serial numbers and there was speculation at police headquarters that it may be possible to trace the case to other persons through the money, because banks often keep track of such bills.

Police said the serial numbers of the \$100 bills have been passed along to the FBI. The FBI, in turn, reportedly had to wait until this morning to begin checking the numbers with the Federal Reserve Bank to try to determine which bank had received the bills — and perhaps to whom they were issued.

One Democratic party official said all truly important documents from the massive files of the national committee had been sent from the Watergate weeks ago to Miami Beach, where advance staff elements have long been working on convention arrangements.

The FBI would not confirm that the electronic equipment confiscated by Washington police had been turned over to them. However, an FBI spokesman said the bureau is officially involved in the case because of a possible IOC (Interception of Communications) violations — a federal offense.

The five suspects now are charged by D.C. authorities with second-degree burglary.