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GOP's agents

By William Eaton
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WASHINGTON — Democrats talked of seeking a federal court injunction Tuesday to bar Republican agents from Democratic headquarters after the arrest of five "bungling burglars," including a former CIA agent on two GOP payrolls.

The Republican National Committee and the Committee for the Re-election of President Nixon promptly fired James W. McCord Jr., 53, a security consultant for both groups.

A few Democrats in Congress expressed concern about a political cover-up of the episode, but Republicans denied any connection with the apparent effort to plant electronic listening devices in the office of Democratic chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien.

A FEDERAL grand jury will be impaneled to investigate the presence of McCord and four other Miami men in Democratic offices at 2 a.m. Saturday, wearing surgeons' rubber gloves and armed with .35-m.m. cameras and eavesdropping gear.

A total of \$5,300, mostly in \$100 bills with the serial numbers running in sequence, was discovered on the suspects and in the adjacent hotel where the



Sen. William Proxmire

four men were registered under false names.

Sen. William O. Proxmire (D-Wis.) demanded a Federal Reserve Board check on the bank that issued the \$100 bills and the method of payment for them.

Police refused to make public the serial numbers on the currency, however, and Board Chairman Arthur S. Burns informed Proxmire that no check of Federal Reserve records could be started without the numbers.

An aide said Proxmire was not satisfied with the reply and

is concerned about a possible cover-up of the origin of the funds in the suspects' possession.

IT WAS reported Tuesday that two of the men, one of them McCord, carried items that linked them with White House consultant Howard E. Hunt.

A story in the Washington Post quoted federal sources who said address books with Hunt's name and telephone number and a stamped unmailed envelope containing Hunt's personal check for \$6 were found among the belongings of the two men.

Ken Clawson, deputy director of White House communications, told United Press International that Hunt was hired last July 6 to help declassify the Pentagon Papers. For several months he has been a consultant to the President's Domestic Council.

McCord, who was hired last Jan. 1 by the re-election committee to supervise security at its offices near the White House, was paid \$1,209 a month, after taxes. He earned an additional \$625 a month as a consultant for the Republican National Committee from October through February, when he was raised to \$666 a month.

McCord's firm provided the guards for GOP headquarters on Capitol Hill, a committee

spokesman said, and he reviewed security arrangements when the building was opened last fall.

De Van Shumway, chief spokesman for the committee to re-elect the President, said McCord was fired "the first thing this morning" after newspaper stories on the break-in.

"He was sort of our chief watchman," said Shumway. "He advised on installation of closed-circuit television for surveillance. He was an unassuming little guy."

A REPORT filed with Congress indicates the re-election committee, headed by former Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell, paid McCord \$2,000 for equipment. Shumway said as far as he knew the cameras and

eavesdropping devices seized by the police were "not equipment from the campaign."

McCord who was an FBI agent from 1948 to 1951, moved to the Central Intelligence Agency and served 19 years before his retirement in 1970.

ARRESTED with McCord were:

Havana-born Bernard L. Barker, a Miami real estate man who reportedly played a role in planning the abortive 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

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