

McCord Is Texan, Attended Kilgore College, UT

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WASHINGTON—For the past four months James W. McCord Jr. was the chief security officer at the headquarters for the Committee to Re-elect the President.

"He was our senior guard, you might say," said one staffer.

Wednesday McCord, a Texan, spent his fourth day in jail on a \$30,000 bond for his role in an early morning break-in Saturday at the Democratic Party national headquarters.

McCord's presence on the payrolls of both the Committee to Re-elect the President and the Republican National

Committee sent a flush of embarrassment across the faces of Republicans who want to avoid any connection with what White House Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler called a "third rate burglary."

"Our first order of business Monday morning was to take him off our payroll," said Powell Moore, in the committee's press office.

COMMITTEE sources said McCord, 53, began work at the committee Jan. 1 and came more highly recommended and with a better background in security matters than other applicants for the job. He is a 19-year CIA veteran and set up his own private company in nearby Rockville about the time he received his contracts with

the Republicans. McCord's weekly take home pay was \$1,200, according to the committee for the re-election.

He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1949, a committee spokesman said, and he taught security courses at Montgomery County College in Maryland. Those who know him say a clandestine midnight raid is not McCord's style.

An acquaintance at the First Baptist Church in Washington where McCord was a member would not comment on his involvement in the recent break-in at the Democratic headquarters in an apparent attempt to copy documents and plant surveillance microphones in Chairman Lawrence O'Brien's office.

But John New, moderator

of the church, did say McCord had been active in the church prior to 1957 and then had returned to Washington and attended the church from 1965 to 1969 although he is not now on the church rolls.

"We remember him as an upright Christian man. There was no question about his ethics or morals by anyone who knew him," New said.

NEW SAID McCord attended church with the "usual regularity" and occasionally taught a Sunday school class on a substitute basis. "His family always accompanied him." McCord has a wife, two daughters and a son in his second year at the U.S. Air Force Academy. The family lives in Rockville but the telephone has been

disconnected, apparently to spare the family contact with reporters.

McCord retired in 1970 from the CIA where he had spent 19 years. Sources at the Federal Bureau of Investigation said McCord had worked as a clerical employee in the bureau from 1942 to 1943 and then returned in 1943 to serve two years as an agent. According to FBI records he attended Kilgore Junior College and the University of Texas.

McCord is also a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve and was part of a unit whose duties included developing plans for compiling lists of radicals and developing plans for censorship of news and mail in the event of war.