

GOP Aide Turns M'Govern Informer

Gives Information for Democratic Bugging Charges

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ALBUQUERQUE—Sen. George S. McGovern's campaign has a high-level inside source within the Republican reelection machinery who has supplied detailed information on the Watergate incident and an earlier attempt to bug McGovern's own campaign headquarters. The Times has learned.

The informant was a source of Wednesday's charge by Lawrence F. O'Brien, McGovern's national campaign chairman, that some of the same persons who were caught inside the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate apartment complex June 17 had made a similar, abortive, effort to snoop on the McGovern headquarters May 27.

McGovern, here for a rest after his first week of post-Labor Day campaigning, repeated the latter charge about his own headquarters at a press conference Saturday in which he said he had the names of the individuals but would not release them now.

Declines to Reveal Source

Asked what the source was, the Democratic nominee said: "Well, I can't disclose that, but it's a fact. You'll have to accept it on faith."

(In Washington, a spokesman for the Committee for the Reelection of the President, said there would be no immediate comment on McGovern's allegations of the report of a Democratic spy in high GOP circles.)

McGovern said two carloads of persons had driven up to his head-

quarters about 3 a.m. on the morning of May 27 but drove away when they found "someone was sleeping in the doorway of the headquarters and others were working inside."

Asked how he knew they were would-be wiretappers, the candidate said: "We have the information from a source who was very close to what was happening that night."

McGovern did not elaborate further, but The Times learned that the source was an individual directly involved in the two incidents who moved at a high level through the whole covert undertaking over a period of months.

Nor did McGovern say whether the source still was close to Republi-

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McGovern said that "maybe at some later date we'll think it advisable" to disclose the names, but for now he wanted to "work with our legal people" on the matter.

Asked whether there was any evidence connecting the persons in question with the Committee for the Reelection of the President or with the White House, McGovern said, "There's no question in my mind they were connected with the Committee to Reelect the President."

Police arrested five men early on the morning of June 17 inside the Democratic national headquarters in Washington. Police said the men, wearing rubber gloves, had at least two sophisticated devices capable of picking up and transmitting oral and telephone conversations.

One of the five men was identified as James W. McCord, security director for President Nixon's reelection committee. He was la-

ter fired by the committee.

The Democratic nominee, who in the past has called for a special blue-ribbon investigation of the whole Watergate break-in, Saturday proposed Earl Warren, former chief justice of the United States, or Lee Rankin, former U.S. auditor general, both Republicans, "who would be respected by both sides," to head the independent inquiry.

On another matter raised at his press conference, McGovern said he did not condone, but "can understand the anguish and the anger out of which the Israelis were acting" in launching raids on Arab nations in retaliation for the deaths of 11 Israeli Olympic athletes in Munich at the hands of Arab terrorists.

"I'm not giving any approval to what took place," he said, "I'm simply saying one kind of violence begets another kind. I think that in view of the terribleness of this tragedy in Munich, one can at least understand what was in the minds of the Israelis when they took those counteractions, without condoning them."

Again brushing aside reports of dissension and resignations in his national headquarters, McGovern said squabbles were normal in shifting a campaign from the primary period

to the broader general election, when new people are brought on.

"We're going to set up a kind of temporary retirement center there," he said, facetiously, "where people can cool off for a while and then return to work."