

# Dems Seek Million in 'Bug' Case

## Suit Filed Against Group Backing Nixon

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Democratic National Committee chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien, charging that the attempted break-in at his party headquarters brought the level of politics down to "gutter level," announced today the filing of a million-dollar suit against the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

O'Brien told a news conference the suit is for compensatory and punitive damages totalling \$1 million. Also named in the suit was McCord Associates, a security firm headed by James W. McCord and the five men arrested Saturday night in the break-in at the Watergate Apartment complex where the Democratic national headquarters is located. McCord was one of the five arrested.

"AS FAR AS I am personally concerned," said O'Brien, "there is a clear line of direction to the Committee for the Re-election of the President and a developing clear line to the White House."

He said the break-in was a "very very serious matter that is certainly political espionage."

"I am pleased to note that the FBI is investigating this case," said O'Brien, "but I am shocked to learn that the White House through its official spokesman, deems unworthy of notice this blatant act of political espionage."

"AND NOW WE learn of the potential involvement of a White House special consultant who is said to specialize in delicate assignments for the President," said O'Brien.

The Washington Post reported today that a consultant to White House, special counsel Charles W. Colson, is listed in the address books of two of the five

men arrested.

The Post said federal sources close to the investigation said the address books contain the and home number of Howard E. Hunt, the consultant, with the notations, "W. House" and "W.H."

**HUNT WORKED** for the Central Intelligence Agency from 1949 to 1970," the Post said. All

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five suspects have had links to the CIA.

The Post said that when Hunt was asked by a reporter Monday why two of the suspects had his phone number, he said "Good God!" Then, the Post said, he said "In view that the matter is under adjudication, I have no comment."

A White House official said Hunt last worked for the White House in March 29, for a regular daily consultant fee.

**HUNT'S NAME** and phone number in the address book of Eugenio Martinez, a real estate agent who has been active in the anti-Castro movement in Miami, the Post said.

The paper also reported that its sources said a small, black address book of one of the other suspects also has Hunt's name and phone number.

The suit announced by O'Brien, filed in U. S. District Court, tasks for \$100,000 compensatory damages to Democratic headquarters offices and for expenses the party has incurred because of the burglary.

**IT ALSO ASKS** for \$900,000 in punitive damages which Joseph A. Califano Jr., the party's chief counsel, said is authorized under various civil rights laws.

The five suspects are being held on charges of attempted burglary and attempted interception of telephone and other communication, or bugging. They were seized inside the headquarters building.

"If John Mitchell's reflex attempt to conceal that fact is any signal of what is to come from the Republican party and administration, I fear we shall be a long time getting at the truth," O'Brien said.