

**Bug Probe Held
Victory for U.S.** *Put 4/27/75*

ST. LOUIS, April 26 (AP) — The exposure of the Watergate bugging incident was a victory for the American system of government and was achieved by the press, the courts and Congress, Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton (D-Mo.) said today.

"But Watergate should serve as ample warning that we cannot afford to allow any of the separate institutions of our system to be weakened," Eagleton said in a speech prepared for delivery at a meeting of the St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

"The untiring effort to discredit the press, to circumvent court decisions and to erode the power of Congress has taken its toll," the senator said.

Eagleton told the labor leaders that Americans have turned cynical, and the latest reason for the attitude is "the Watergate affair."

"As a Democrat," he said, "I suppose it would be easy to derive some partisan pleasure from the misdeeds and miseries of the opposition party, but instead, my feeling is one of deep regret."