

Nixon Medical Records Reportedly Rifled in '72

Part From News Dispatches *5-15/72*

LONG BEACH, Calif., May 4 (UPI)—President Nixon's medical records were rifled by burglars who broke into the office of his personal physician during the height of the 1972 presidential campaign, the Long Beach Independent-Press Telegram reported today.

Dr. John Lungren, who last examined the president in 1969 and now is his "medical consultant," said that although money was in plain view it was not taken by the intruders.

"I don't believe that any of the [Nixon] records were missing, but the papers were out of their chronological order and obviously scrutinized," Lungren said. "There is the supposition that they might have been photographed."

The Independent-Press Telegram's copyrighted story said the FBI refused comment on the case but that FBI sources felt the documents could have been photographed or hand copied.

The records dated back to Nixon's days as vice president.

"It is his complete medical record," Lungren said.

"However, I have no idea of what value the records could be to anyone," he continued. "Every examination I've ever given him showed him to be in perfect health."

Lungren said there were two burglaries, one Sept. 4 and 5, 1972, and the other two weeks later. Both times the burglars forced open a sliding glass door to gain entrance.

The first time \$27 in cash was taken, but another \$100 lying in the open was left, he said. He said the contents of the unlocked safe where the Nixon file was kept had been ransacked but that the manila envelope containing the actual records apparently had not been disturbed.

"I checked to see if the file was in the larger folder, but I didn't actually open it up and check it thoroughly," Lungren said.

He said that in the second robbery the Nixon medical records had been obviously disturbed, although nothing else, including money plainly visible, was taken, the paper reported.