

7/6/72

Still Another Try To Bug Watergate?

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Democratic National Chairman Jean Westwood says a wire-filled red box now in the possession of the party indicates the Democrat's national headquarters may have been the target of another bugging attempt last week.

In response to a question at a news conference here Tuesday, Mrs. Westwood said she does not believe political spying can ever be completely eliminated, then related an incident at Democratic party offices at the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C., last week.

"We're fairly sure that we were bugged again," she said. "Last Thursday, I think it was, one of the girls in the office went out into the hallway and there was this huge hole in the hallway and some men installing a red box. She asked them what they were installing and they said fire equipment."

"And we checked with the fire department and they were not putting in any new fire equipment and neither

was the building."

Mrs. Westwood said the men left while the girl was reporting the incident, leaving the box behind. She said no one has returned to complete the installation.

"We have it being checked right now," she said, adding that the box and details of the incident have been turned over to party attorneys now investigating an earlier alleged attempt to bug the party's Watergate offices.

She charged that the Committee for the Re-Election of President Nixon and the Republican party were directly involved in the first attempt and that White House sources were either "directly tied in" or they cared so little about what their Cabinet members in the committee did and the kind of activities they engaged in that they turned them free with a free hand with no instructions not to do these kinds of things...

She said she has found that people around the country do not expect such things of government and are upset about reports of political espionage.

"People are not cynical about government — they don't want it that way, where people are bought and sold," she said. "And that's where we're winning."