

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ering last week before she left for Europe with husband Ed Cox. "This is the first time I'm going to be away from you at Christmas," Tricia said. "I'll call you, though."

THE WATERGATE CASE:

The 100 \$100s

When a United Airlines Boeing 737 crashed on Chicago's South Side a fortnight ago, killing 43 people, a water-soaked woman's handbag was found in the rubble. Police routinely sent it along to the stationhouse, opened it last week—and were startled to find 100 neatly banded \$100 bills. The owner of the bag turned out to have been none other than Mrs. E. Howard Hunt—the wife of the shadowy onetime CIA agent due to stand trial next month in

the break-in at Democratic headquarters in Washington's Watergate complex last June.

Hunt, according to a cousin of his wife named Harold Carlstead whom Mrs. Hunt was planning to visit in Chicago, claimed that the money was connected with a business project that she planned to discuss with Carlstead. There was no reason to disbelieve this, but the find did raise some tantalizing new mysteries. Why should Mrs. Hunt be carrying so much in cash? Was it pure coincidence that one of the bills was penciled "Good Luck, FS"? (Frank Sturgis is another Watergate defendant.) The \$10,000 was kept, for the time being, by the authorities. But someone—perhaps Hunt—was due to collect over \$200,000 in air-travel life insurance that Dorothy Hunt had taken out before boarding the fatal flight.