

Mrs. Ellsberg's Doctor Reports His Office Was Searched in '71

**Psychiatrist Dates Burglary
Less Than Three Months
After Coast Break-In**

By JOHN M. CREWDSON

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WASHINGTON, June 7—A Manhattan psychoanalyst who treated Mrs. Daniel Ellsberg has disclosed that his office was searched by intruders in November, 1971, less than three months after the attempt in Los Angeles by the White House "plumbers" to steal Dr. Ellsberg's medical records from the office of his former psychiatrist.

Dr. Robert U. Akeret, who practices in a penthouse suite at 697 West End Avenue, confirmed in a telephone interview that his office had been entered, apparently searched and left in considerable disarray, but that blank checks were the only things missing.

At the time of the intrusion, a cabinet in Dr. Akeret's office contained a file relating to his treatment of Patricia Ellsberg. The cabinet was unlocked, he said, and had also contained the blank checks. The doctor said he had no way of knowing whether or not the files on his patients had been photographed or otherwise tampered with.

He did not report the break-in to local or Federal authorities, the doctor said, but simply asked his bank to void his old account and issue him new checks. Dr. Akeret said the new account was opened on Nov. 12, 1971, and on that basis he placed the time of the break-in as the previous evening.

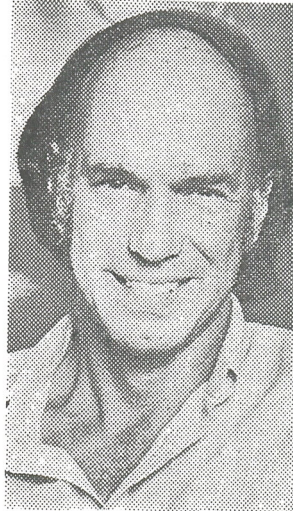
Call by F.B.I. Agents

The Government apparently had knowledge of Dr. Akeret's professional relationship with Mrs. Ellsberg at least five months before the November intrusion.

On the day after the first publication of the Pentagon papers, Dr. Akeret recalled, agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation came to his office seeking information on Mrs. Ellsberg. He said he sent them away.

The first installment of the secret Defense Department study of the Vietnam war, which Mr. Ellsberg said he had given to the press, appeared in the New York Times on June 13, 1971, a Sunday.

Charges of espionage, theft and conspiracy against Dr. Ellsberg, a former Pentagon official and Rand Corporation



Frank Grunberg

Dr. Robert Akeret

analyst, were dismissed in May of last year.

In dropping the charges and declaring a mistrial, William Matthew Byrne, the Federal district judge who presided at the trial, accused the Government of misconduct in connection with its case. He cited in particular the attempt by the "plumbers, a security unit set up by the White House, to retrieve Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatric records from his former psychiatrist.

Investigation of Ellsberg

After publication of the Pentagon papers, President Nixon reportedly directed the Special Investigations Unit to learn what it could about Mr. Ellsberg, who was by then the prime suspect as the source for the documents.

The White House investigation team called itself the "plumbers" because it had been charged with stopping unauthorized leaks.

Egil M. Krogh Jr., who is now serving a sentence at the Federal prison camp at Allenwood, Pa., has admitted that he approved the burglary of the office of Dr. Lewis J. Fielding, a Beverly Hills, Calif., psychiatrist who was known to have treated Dr. Ellsberg.

That burglary, which was organized in September, 1971, by G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt Jr., two of Mr. Krogh's subordinates, failed to produce any files on Dr. Ellsberg. Mr. Hunt and Mr. Liddy were among seven men later convicted for their roles in the Watergate bugging case.

Neither Mr. Ellsberg nor his wife, who were married in 1970, could be reached for comment on the burglary report.