

Home of Sen. Mathias Broken Into

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The home of Sen. Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.), a member of the Senate select committee on intelligence, was broken into over the weekend but little if anything of value was taken, according to Montgomery County police.

It was the second burglary in three months at the home of a member of the committee, which is investigating the Central Intelligence Agency and other government intelligence activities.

In both last weekend's break-in of Mathias' home in Chevy Chase and the Aug. 8 burglary of fellow committee member Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr.'s (R-Tenn.) home, the thieves bypassed items normally taken in household burglaries.

Mathias reported the burglary Monday night, after he, his wife and their two sons returned to their home, in the

3800 block of Leland St., Chevy Chase, after a weekend trip. He said the only item that appeared to be missing was \$25 worth of Swiss francs.

Montgomery County police said the burglars passed up television sets, silverware, China and expensive figurines. Mathias said yesterday that every desk drawer and closet in the two-story white brick house had been opened.

While the senator said it appeared to him that the burglars were looking for something specific, he said through an aide that he did not believe the break-in had any political motivation. Mathias said he did not have any intelligence committee documents or memos in the house.

In the burglary at Baker's home at 3224 Woodland Dr. NW, thousands of dollars worth of furs, gold coins and photographic equipment were strewn about the house, but

not taken.

"They sure weren't looking for money," Baker's press aide, Ron McMahan, recalled yesterday.

McMahan said he did not know if Baker had talked to Mathias about the similarity of the two break-ins.

Bob Lill, a spokesman for the Washington field office of the FBI, said yesterday that the FBI is "closing out" its investigation of the Baker burglary, having found no evidence of a federal crime. He said the metropolitan police still are investigating the break-in.

Although Mathias initially reported the burglary to the FBI, a spokesman in the bureau's Baltimore field office said yesterday that the federal agency did not investigate. "It was treated like a routine breaking and entering," the spokesman said.

Cpl. Phillip R. Caswell, a spokesman for the Montgomery County police, said

the burglars entered the Mathias residence through a rear kitchen window, apparently wore gloves and left no fingerprints, as in the Baker burglary.

Baker's home was strewn with papers following the burglary, but Mathias' home was not. Police said the burglars did search through personal papers, photographic slides and a telephone bill from Mathias' living room desk. * (SEE NYT)

Last February, Mathias introduced a bill that would require all federal agents to obtain a court order before conducting any surveillance.

The bill defined surveillance as wiretapping, buggings and all other forms of electronic eavesdropping, as well as inspection of credit, bank and telephone records. The bill is pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee, of which Mathias is a member.

He also is a member of the Appropriations and District of Columbia committees.