

White House Bugging Ties

WASHINGTON — That break-in and bugging, or attempted bugging, of Democratic Party headquarters in the plush Watergate Apartments complex here grows more and more disturbing.

Every week produces some new line to the White House, or the Republican Party, or the Committee to Reelect the President.

THE PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT of several of those involved in "The Watergate Caper," and recent strange revelations of big money floating into bank accounts out of nowhere, have aroused some serious misgivings that the Central Intelligence Agency was involved.

The latest development, reported by the Washington Post, is that a \$25,000 cashier's check apparently intended for President Nixon's reelection fund was deposited in April in the bank account of Bernard L. Barker, regarded as the leader of the five men arrested in the Democratic headquarters break-in.

The check was made out to Kenneth H. Dahlberg, Mr. Nixon's finance chairman for the Midwest and the former finance chairman for Clark MacGregor in his 1970 Senate race against Hubert H. Humphrey in Minnesota. Both Dahlberg and MacGregor, who now heads Mr. Nixon's reelection campaign, expressed shock and amazement that the \$25,000 wound up in Barker's account.

Only hours earlier, the Washington Star reported that four checks totaling \$89,000 were deposited in Barker's Miami bank account in May. The checks were signed by a

prominent Mexico City lawyer, Manuel Ogarrío Daguerre, whose son insisted that his father really knew nothing of the checks or of Barker.

The five men arrested in the wee hours at Democratic headquarters had 53 \$100 bills which have been traced to Barker's account.

Barker has had CIA connections in the past.

Another man arrested in the raid on the Democrats is James W. McCord who at the time was the security chief for the Committee to Reelect the President and a consultant to the Republican National Committee. He subsequently was fired from both posts.

The name of E. Howard Hunt, Jr., a White House consultant and another former CIA agent, turned up in the notes of a couple of those arrested in this bugging episode. Hunt dashed off to Europe. Hunt had been hired at the White House on recom-

mendation of Charles Colson, the special counsel to the President who is known around town as the aide in charge of dirty gamesmanship.

THEN SEVERAL days ago the Committee to Reelect the President disclosed that it had fired G. Gordon Liddy who had served as its financial counsel. Liddy had refused to answer the FBI's questions about the Watergate affair.

The ties between this burglary and bugging scheme and the network of efforts to reelect Mr. Nixon are so numerous and intertwined that even the FBI and a grand jury may never sort them out.