

Haldeman Ordered Probe of Reporter

Washington

H. R. Haldeman acknowledged yesterday that he had ordered a 1971 investigation by the FBI of Daniel Schorr, a Washington correspondent for CBS.

President Nixon's former chief of staff told the Senate Watergate committee that, contrary to White House assertions at the time, the in-

quiry had not been prompted by any interest in naming Schorr to an administration post.

But Haldeman, under questioning by Sen. Joseph Montoya (Dem-N.M.) insisted that he could not remember why the elaborate and controversial background check had been made.

The testimony also cov-

ered a White House "enemies" list and Haldeman said that he believed the FBI "probably" maintains a file on the activities and background of "every American that is known publicly."

REPORTING

Schorr, who has covered the Watergate investigation and who was present at the hearings yesterday, had irritated the White House with his reporting on the issue of federal aid to parochial schools, among other things. He was placed on the enemies list.

Haldeman in explaining the Schorr investigation said:

"I requested a background report on Mr. Schorr . . . not in connection with the enemies list, and I am not sure in what connection it was, but I am sure there was something that arose at the time that this request was made, and I don't know in what context, but there had been, as has been indicated here in earlier testimony, concern from time to time about statements that were made and the reasons for them in terms of national security questions, and I don't know that this was in such a context because I simply don't recall what the reason for it was."

EXCHANGE

The former White House chief of staff added that there had been a request not for an investigation of Schorr but for "the background file which the FBI has." This exchange with Montoya followed:

Q. What file? Did you have a file in the White House on Mr. Schorr?

A. No, sir. The FBI did, or may have.

Q. How did you know they have?

A. They have a file on most people who are known publicly and the request was for whatever file they have.

Q. You mean the FBI has a file on every American that is known publicly?

A. I think they probably do. I have not been through their files so I can't verify that.

Haldeman also indicated that the FBI had investigated Helen Hayes, the actress, because she "quite possibly" was under consideration for a White House job and had investigated Frank Sinatra, because he was going to entertain at the White House.

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