

# Goldwater

## Spy Story

### Is Denied

Washington

A Watergate committee source denied yesterday that E. Howard Hunt said President Johnson gave the order to spy on Senator Barry Goldwater during the 1964 presidential campaign.

In fact, Hunt's alleged "surveillance" of Goldwater consisted of having a secretary pick up press releases, speeches, travel schedules and other materials at Republican headquarters, according to reliable accounts of Hunt's testimony to the Senate Watergate committee.

Although Hunt's activities were originally described to the Washington Post as being a "surveillance" operation of Goldwater on orders from then President Johnson, the source of that information declined initially to provide any details.

Yesterday, the same source acknowledged when questioned again that Hunt had described a pick-up operation from Goldwater headquarters to the Watergate committee staff and had provided few details.

The source also denied saying that President Johnson had initiated the order for the operation.

According to reliable accounts, Hunt testified to the committee staff that the speeches and press releases were delivered to Chester Cooper, a White House aide to President Johnson who worked on foreign policy matters.

Cooper last night denied any knowledge of the "surveillance."

"I knew that we were getting Goldwater's speeches ... the stuff that was going to the press," Cooper said. "How the hell it got there, I don't know." Cooper said he "never had the pleasure" of meeting Hunt.