

F.B.I. Seeks Sources of Watergate Press Leaks

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 25—

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is conducting an inquiry aimed at pinpointing the source of "leaks" of classified information from its Watergate files to newsmen, a bureau spokesman confirmed today.

He described the investigation, which reportedly has been under way for several months, as an internal inquiry begun by the F.B.I. Director, Clarence M. Kelley.

The spokesman also confirmed reports that the office of Leon Jaworski, the special Watergate prosecutor, was being kept advised of the progress of the investigation. But sources in Mr. Jaworski's office have given no indication of what action, if any, the prosecutor plans to take in the matter.

Other sources familiar with the investigation said that one of those recently questioned by F.B.I. agents was W. Mark Felt, who retired as the bureau's associate director in June, 1973, a year after the Watergate break-in that marked the F.B.I.'s entry into the bugging and burglary case and its subsequent cover-up.

Other former officials, including William D. Ruckelshaus, who served for two and a half months last year as the acting F.B.I. director, have also

been interviewed by agents working on the case, the sources said.

Neither Mr. Felt nor Mr. Ruckelshaus could be reached for comment on the investigation.

Mr. Felt has been mentioned as one candidate for the role of Deep Throat, the mysterious Government official who provided newsmen with background information on developments in the Watergate investi-

gation. The term was used by The Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward.

But the F.B.I. is understood to be particularly interested in determining the source of disclosures of confidential information about the exploits of Donald H. Segretti, the convicted campaign "saboteur," and the wiretapping of Government officials and newsmen by the Nixon Administration.

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