

McGovern Calls Probe 'Whitewash'

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By Bob Woodard

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Sen. Gerorge McGovern, the Democratic presidential nominee, charged yesterday that the Nixon administration "engineered" a "whitewash" in the federal grand jury investigation into Watergate case, leaving major questions unanswered even after the seven indictments were returned Friday.

Those unanswered questions, McGovern said, include: "Who ordered this act of political espionage? Who paid for it?" and "Who received the memoranda of the tapped telephone conversations at Democratic headquarters?"

At the 1 p.m. press conference at his Washington home yesterday, McGovern charged that the Watergate investigation "remained a political case under the total direction and control of Mr. Nixon's political operatives, working through (Attorney General) Kleindienst."

While offering no proof to support the charge, Sen. McGovern said "the evidence is that none of the questions have been answered."

Friday's indictment did not answer the central questions about the purpose of the Watergate bugging or its connec-

tion with \$114,000 of Nixon campaign checks that were deposited in the bank accounts of one of the five men arrested in the Democrats headquarters on June 17.

However, prosecutors rarely reveal all aspects of their case in an indictment, but often save important evidence for the trial.

McGovern continued in his prepared statement: "The Nixon administration asks us to believe that the Watergate

Five, plus two lowly White House operatives, dreamed up and carried out this shabby scheme to spy on the Democratic Party all on their own, with no authority from above."

He charged that the indictments are a "blatant miscarriage of justice . . . ordered to spare the White House embarrassment in an election year." "Through their evasiveness and delaying tactics," McGovern charged that the

Nixon administration has "made this case of political espionage a major issue in this presidential campaign."

"What is involved here is not only the political life of this nation, but the very morality of our leaders at a time when the United States desperately needs to revitalize its moral standards.

"And that is why I shall pursue this case the length and breadth of this land," McGovern said.