

Demo Break-in-- Phone Record Link

Miami

Newly discovered telephone records support charges that suspects in the Democratic National Committee bugging case maintained a listening post across the street from the committee's Washington offices.

The records show that two collect calls were made on May 26 and May 29 from a pay phone to the residence of Virgilio R. Gonzalez, a Miami locksmith.

He was one of five suspects arrested June 17 while allegedly trying to plant electronic eavesdropping equipment in the Democratic offices in the Watergate building.

LOBBY

Telephone records, made available to the Los Angeles Times, show the calls to Gonzalez's residence were made from phones in the lobby of a Howard Johnson Motel which is across the street from the Democratic headquarters.

Lawrence F. O'Brien, national campaign manager for Senator George S. McGovern, has accused the Committee for the re-election of the President of bugging the Democratic offices and of maintaining a listening post in the Howard Johnson Motel.

O'Brien said evidence would show that the suspects had broken into the offices on June 17 in order to plant a listening device and to repair a faulty tap that had been planted on his telephone earlier when he was chairman of the Democratic Party.

EFFORT

McGovern, the Democratic presidential nominee, has charged that the bugging suspects made an abortive



UPI Telephoto

CLARK MacGREGOR
'Top people are innocent'

attempt to bug his Washington campaign offices on May 27, which would have been a day following one of the Washington calls to Gonzalez's residence and two days before the other call.

Others arrested on June 17 included James W. McCord Jr., who at the time was security director for both the Republican party and the Committee to Re-elect the President, and three Miami-ans, Bernard L. Barker, Frank Sturgis and Eugene Martinez.

Meanwhile, President Nixon's campaign director, Clark MacGregor, said yesterday that he is convinced that top people in the re-election effort, past and present, "are wholly innocent" of involvement in the bugging affair.

This includes, he said, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, whom he replaced as head of the committee, when Mitchell stepped down because of family pressures.

MacGregor discussed the Watergate case and other

matters on the CBS's "Face the Nation."

The former congressman and presidential aide was asked if he had any concern about possible embarrassment to the re-election committee when a grand jury hands down its decision — expected within a matter of days — on the five men accused of the bugging.

"No," he replied, "on the contrary. We are anxious to see the grand jury action completed . . . people in authority will be exonerated by not being indicted."

"I'm satisfied they are wholly innocent," he added.

SHRIVER

Sargent Shriver, the Democratic vice presidential candidate, said yesterday regarding the contributions to Mr. Nixon's campaign:

"It's obvious, I suppose, that people give cash if they don't want money to be traced to them rather than writing a check . . . when somebody's got \$114,000 in cash they obviously are using it to circumvent the law, in this case the election law."

"There's a very close link there between the raising of money by the committee to re-elect the President and skullduggery."

Shriver was interviewed on ABC's "Face the Nation."

L.A. Times Service