

Excerpts from long report on Watergate affair. Portions omitted are covered in clippings.

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Joe Belden, KPTA: Presidential aide Robert Finch told reporters in Sacramento today that the President's staff is "bemused" by the attempted break-in of the Democratic national headquarters last June. He said, "not amused - bemused. If I wanted information the last place I would go is the Democratic National Committee. It was just the height of idiocy."

But there were more developments in the Watergate affair today. Judy Miller [Pacifica, Washington] once again:

Miller: The Washington Star-News has learned from sources close to the grand jury investigating the Watergate incident that federal authorities have closely linked G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt, formerly within the Nixon Re-Election Committee, to the Watergate affair. Time Magazine reported two weeks ago that two former White House consultants were in a Howard Johnson's motel across the street from the Watergate with listening devices and tapes on the night that five men were arrested inside the Democratic National Committee headquarters. The Star reported today that federal authorities have identified Liddy and Hunt as the two men inside that Howard Johnson's motel. This is Judy Miller, Pacifica Radio, Washington.

Belden:

In Miami, Dade County State Attorney Richard Gerstein said today that he has turned up "secret film" indicating that there may have been more than one break-in of the Democratic national headquarters at the Watergate. Mr. Gerstein said in an interview with the Miami Herald that a Miami commercial photographer has testified that he processed a rush order of film showing what appeared to be Democratic party documents one week before police caught the five men inside the Watergate Hotel.

The Herald said in its Friday [1 Sep] edition that photographer Michael Richardson told investigators that Bernard Barker, one of the five men arrested inside the Watergate, paid for the special rush job on 38 enlarged photographs. Mr. Barker is the person whose address book contained Mr. Liddy's name. The photographer, Mr. Richardson - who Mr. Gerstein said passed a lie detector test with flying colors - said the film appeared to show the private correspondence of Lawrence O'Brien, then the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and also showed what looked like deformed hands holding a bundle of onion-skin copies of documents against a shag rug background. He said he later realized the hands were wearing ill-fitting surgical gloves.

He told the Herald he suspected "some sort of hanky-panky" as he made the prints but he thought little more of it until Mr. Barker and the four other men were caught inside the Democratic headquarters seven days later, on June 17. He said, "I saw their picture in the paper, and wham! - that's when everything jibed together. I ran my fanny right down to the FBI. When I saw something wrong I did something about it."

State Attorney Gerstein, a Democrat who is running for re-election this fall, confirmed this published report and said he cooperated with the FBI in the investigation.

[End.]