

More U.S.-Ordered Break-Ins Reported

By John Hanrahan
 Washington Post Staff Writer

Senate investigators have been told by high administration officials that government operatives committed burglaries in connection with the prosecution of the Seattle Seven, Chicago Weatherpeople, Detroit 13 and Berri-gan cases, Newsweek magazine reported in its issue on the newstands today.

The Washington Post could not confirm yesterday that there were administration-sponsored burglaries in connection with those specific cases, which involved antiwar and leftist activists, but one Senate source said:

"The (Senate Watergate) committee has evidence of other burglaries, several of them, and the evidence is convincing . . . we know who participated and who directed them."

Newsweek also reported that:

- The FBI is investigating allegations that administration operatives

broke into the Brookings Institution, a liberal-leaning Washington think tank, to look for information on former National Security Council staff member Morton Halperin, who worked at Brookings after leaving the NSC in late 1969. (Time magazine, in its issue out today, said the burglary apparently was never carried out.)

- Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy told Assistant Attorney General Robert C. Mardian, after the Watergate arrests, that the burglary of the office of the psychiatrist of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg had the "express approval" of President Nixon. Mardian, former head of the Justice Department's Internal Security Division, told this to Senate investigators.

- Mardian told Senate investigators that Liddy said he "whisked ITT lobbyist Dita Beard out of Washington to a Denver hospital" during the early 1972 controversy over Mrs. Beard's

memo. The memo allegedly linked ITT's offer to help underwrite the Republican National Convention in San Diego to a favorable settlement of a Justice Department antitrust action pending against ITT.

- Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox plans to remove the three assistant U.S. attorneys—Earl Silbert, Seymour Glanzer and Donald Campbell—who have been handling the case for the last year "after a respectable grace period." Cox had planned all along to do this, the magazine reported, but the move was made easier by last week's story, which first appeared in The Post, that the prosecutors felt it would be helpful if the President himself went before the grand jury.

- Mardian told Senate investigators that President Nixon personally ordered him to take charge of the logs of 17 wiretaps that had been author-

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ized by Mr. Nixon and cleared in part by national security adviser Henry Kissinger to plug security leaks between 1969 and 1971. The Washington Post has confirmed this information through its own sources.

Sources told both Newsweek and The Post that Mardian told the investigators that he learned in the summer of 1971 that William C. Sullivan, then assistant director of the FBI, was holding the wiretap logs.

Mardian informed the White House of this discovery and flew in mid-July to San Clemente to meet with Mr. Nixon, according to the sources. Mardian reportedly told his seatmate on the plane, presidential counsel John W. Dean III, is so hot I can't even talk to you about it."

Newsweek said that Mardian told investigators that Mr. Nixon "told me that the logs affected the most delicate decisions he was making and his ability to function was imperiled by news leaks of the contents involved."

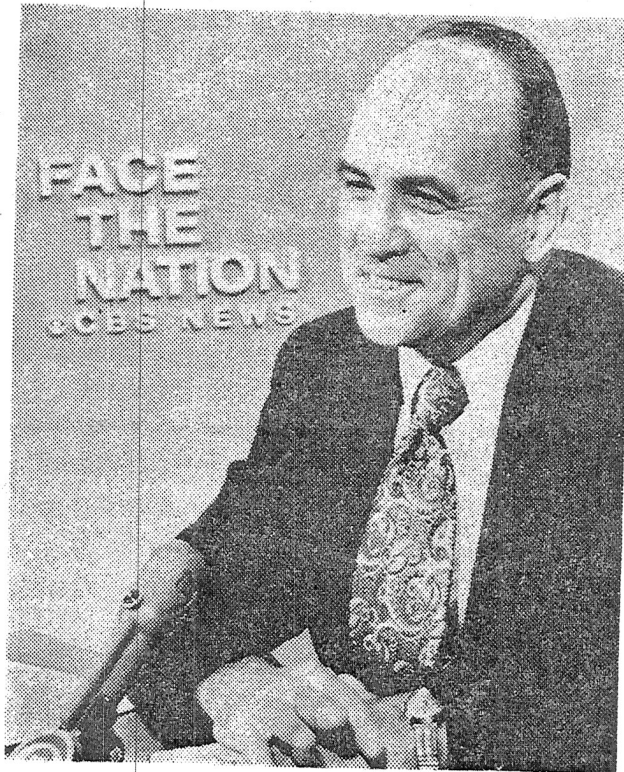
Mardian said the President gave him direct orders to take charge of the logs, Newsweek reported, and on Aug. 1 he picked them up from Sullivan. Later, he turned them over to the White House, where they ended up in the safe of John D. Ehrlichman, then the President's top domestic aide.

Although it has been previously reported that Senate investigators and federal prosecutors have been looking into the possibility that there was other burglaries committed by the Watergate conspirators or other administration groups, the Newsweek report was the first to state flatly that specific break-in were actually committed by administration operatives.

The specific cases all involved leftist or antiwar activists of the last few years.

The Seattle Seven were charged with conspiracy to damage federal property during a February, 1970, demonstration at the federal courthouse in Seattle. The Chicago Weatherpeople case involved indictments against 35 persons charged in connection with the "days of rage," four days of battles between police and demonstrators in October, 1969, in Chicago.

The Detroit 13 are persons



United Press International

James McCord answers questions on television program.

accused of plotting a bombing terror campaign at a Flint, Mich., meeting in 1970. The Berrigan case involved charges that the Rev. Philip Berrigan and six other antiwar activists conspired to kidnap Kissinger in August 1979. They were all acquitted of kidnap charges.

Newsweek did not specify when and where the burglaries occurred, but said that high administration officials said these were part of "illicit methods—including burglary and wiretaps—that were "widely used to try to stop domestic leaks, to monitor the domestic left and gather information for the prosecution of cases against radicals."

Investigators were not certain last week, Newsweek reported, whether any of the burglaries were undertaken by FBI agents, some other official security force, or by a "squad run from the White House or somewhere outside normal law enforcement channels."

The magazine said that despite President Nixon's recent assurances that his proposed 1970 plan to expand domestic spying never became operative, Senate investigators are "looking into allegations that certain aspects of the controversial plan were operational" even before the so-called White House "plumbers" group was formed in the summer of 1971.

It was the "plumbers," Mr. Nixon said in his public statement last month, who were formed to help locate the source of sensitive security leaks to the press. The "plumbers" included Liddy and E. Howard Hunt Jr., two of the Watergate conspirators who also helped burglarize the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist in 1971.

Time, in its new issue, said the proposed burglary at the Brookings Institution had originated with the "plumbers."

Time also reported that the FBI is investigating whether Hunt and Liddy broke into the New York offices of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund "just days after" the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist was burglarized.

Ellsberg, who was accused of stealing the Pentagon Papers and leaking them to the press, was freed of the charges last month when a federal judge ruled in Los Angeles that the break-in and other instances of misconduct by the government mandated that the charges be dismissed.

The Post reported last month that Halperin was one of 10 White House staff members whose phones were tapped in connection with security leaks. It was later disclosed at Ellsberg's trial that conversations between Ellsberg and Halperin had been intercepted by the government.

Halperin, who supervised

the compilation of the Pentagon Papers, was a defense witness at the trial.

In other developments yesterday:

• Rep. Paul N. McCloskey Jr. (R-Calif.) said the House should consider whether the President's actions in the Watergate case are grounds for impeachment. McCloskey, a liberal who opposed Nixon for the 1972 Republican presidential nomination, has reserved one hour of time to discuss the issue on the House Floor after the close of House business Wednesday.

• Watergate conspirator James W. McCord Jr., appearing on CBS' "Face the Nation," said he is convinced Mr. Nixon "set in motion the Watergate operation and followed through on it." He said he had no specific proof, but felt that then-Attorney General John N. Mitchell, who allegedly helped plan the operation, would never have carried it out without presidential approval.

• McCord also said he might have confessed his role in the Watergate affair a few days after he was arrested, but that no one from the FBI ever came to interview him and no search warrants were issued against him.

• Democratic National Chairman Robert Strauss said he believes "the same crowd" that broke into Democratic headquarters at the Watergate last June 17 may have been responsible for a break-in at his Dallas, Tex., home the weekend of July 7-8 of last year.

Strauss, interviewed by reporters at the National Governors Conference in Nevada, said he has no proof, but believes the burglar or burglars may have been looking for Democratic party financial records because they took nothing, even passing up some "valuable jewelry" in a drawer they pried open.

Strauss said he has forwarded his information concerning the break-in to Senate investigators and federal prosecutors.

• Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.), chairman of the Watergate investigating committee, told a Boston news conference that he had rejected a request by special prosecutor Archibald Cox on Saturday to postpone the Watergate hearings until after indictments had been returned.