

## McGovern Aide Regrets Not Stressing Watergate

NEW YORK, July 1 (AP)—The director of Sen. George McGovern's presidential race says that, in the light of current revelations, he regrets the Democrats did not dig deeper into the Watergate issue during the 1972 campaign. However, Gary Hart said in an interview, after Sen.

Thomas Eagleton of Missouri had to be replaced as vice presidential candidate "We might as well have hung up our gloves. Stressing Watergate would have helped, but I doubt if, at that time, it would have beat Richard Nixon."

Eagleton left the ticket and Sargeant Shriver took over after it was disclosed that the Missouri senator had been hospitalized for "acute depression with suicidal tendencies."

"Post-Eagleton," Hart said, "we should have tried to push harder to get reporters to dig out Watergate. Since The Washington Post was beginning to crack the case, I think it could have been done."

"We did try for congressional hearings in an effort to bring the whole thing to the public, but Senator Ervin said there were no grounds at that time."

Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.) now heads the Senate probe into the ever-burgeoning Watergate affair.