

Dead Begonias

By Maxine Cheshire

Somewhere in the federal bookkeeping system is a loss entry for \$1000 worth of begonias ordered to hang around the swimming pool at the Western White House at San Clemente during the visit of Soviet Party boss Leonid Brezhnev. The hanging baskets, purchased from a firm 160 miles away in Bakersfield, died of the heat enroute.

The gardener at San Clemente hastily substituted fresh-cut flowers, cost unknown.

Potpourri

It turns out that convicted Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy, before he went to jail, was a gardening enthusiast. He was particularly successful with roses, which he fertilized with human hair, collected mostly from the brushes of his teen-age daughters. One climbing rose, planted in this fashion last summer, has shot up over the roof of his Oxon Hill home . . . Now that Rose Kennedy has written her memoirs, Jacqueline Onassis' mother, Mrs. Hugh D. Auchincloss, is getting offer for her story of her children and how she brought them up . . . Former acting FBI director, William D. Ruckelshaus, says his nephew has three racing turtles named "Halde-man," "Ehrlichmann" and "Ruckelshaus." The one named "Ruckelshaus" always loses . . .

If he isn't in jail by then, convicted Watergate burglar James W. McCord Jr. is going out on the college lecture circuit this fall at a fee of \$1,000 per speech. Although he once taught courses in criminal law and is accustomed to addressing large groups, he had almost as much trouble finding a lecture agent as he did someone to publish his book. Several lecture bureaus turned him down because they considered his subject matter too controversial.