A Fortunate Crisis

by William V. Shannon

Washington, April 30 - The discovery of the Watergate scandal so early in the second Administration of President Nixon is a fortunate circumstance for the nation. It is likely to slow down and may reverse related and equally ominous developments.

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The Watergate scandal, a secret and lawless effort to rig the election and then to conceal the guilty higher-ups, is the characteristic, almost inevitable scandal of this Administration. If its exposure causes the President to back away from his other ominous attempts at lawless manipulation and control, then the Republic - which is far greater and more precious than the Presidency or any other particular office - will have been well served.