

New Version of Demo Bugging

Washington

Members of the Committee for the Re-Election of the President were on the receiving end of electronic listening devices planted in the national headquarters of the Democratic party, according to Time magazine.

Also, the five persons arrested during a break-in at the plush Watergate offices where the headquarters were located were removing the bugs when caught in the act, Time said in its latest issue, on sale today.

As they were being arrested the night of June 17, members of the Nixon committee's "security-intelligence" squad were packing up tapes and notes and leaving the place where they had set up monitoring headquarters — a motel across the street from the Watergate complex, the magazine reported.

DEVICES

Time did not say how long the bugging devices allegedly were in the Democratic National Committee headquarters.

The Justice Department is aware of the information in the Time article, the magazine said.

Former Democratic National Chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien has charged the bugs were in the offices for

some time before they were discovered.

The committee has filed a \$1 million suit in U.S. District Court in Washington, charging the party's civil rights were violated by the break-in and alleged bugging.

ARRESTED

One of those arrested was James W. McCord Jr., then a security coordinator for the re-election committee.

"The eavesdroppers across the street had apparently been assigned their tasks by McCord," Time said.

The magazine said the intelligence squad grew out of a team originally recruited by the Nixon administration to probe leaks to the media.

Time said the team of media "plumbers"—but not necessarily those in the motel—included C. Gordon Lid-

dy, a former White House staffer who was then attorney for the re-election committee's finance unit, and E. Howard Hunt, a former White House consultant.

MONEY

In addition, Time said that the Justice Department has discovered that \$89,000 of the money found in the bank account of one of those arrested, ex-CIA agent Bernard Barker, came through a Mexico City attorney, Manuel Ogarrío Daguerra.

"As it turns out," Time said, "one of Ogarrío's principal clients is the Gulf Resource & Chemical Corp. of Houston, Texas. The firm's

president, Robert H. Allen, also happens to be chairman of the Texas Finance Committee to re-elect Nixon."

Time also said there is "a possibility that the Watergate forces planned to plant incendiary bombs in the hall during the Democratic convention, or conspired to have the hall stormed by paid Cuban exile mercenaries."

"The Democrats are suspecting the best," the magazine wrote. "They theorize that the Republicans might have fantasized a convention proposal that a new Democratic administration open dialogues with Fidel Castro,

thus leaving itself open to attack in Miami Beach last month by anti-Castro Cubans."

Several of those arrested at the Watergate reportedly had ties to anti-Castro movements.

Associated Press