

Finch Pledges Full Bugging Disclosure

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SACRAMENTO — Presidential counselor Robert Finch promises the White House will make a "full and complete disclosure" of events concerning the bugging of Democratic National Headquarters.

"There will be no effort to sweep it under the rug," Finch yesterday told a news conference ranging from the bugging incident to his own political plans.

Nixon 'Bemused'

The U.S. Justice Department is investigating the attempted break-in of the Democratic headquarters to allegedly bug the premises.

The General Accounting Office also has reported tracing \$114,000 intended for use by President Nixon's campaign to one of the suspects in the bugging case.

Finch, with a sheepish grin on his face, told reporters the President and his close advisors were "completely bemused at it, (the incident) not amused, bemused."

He said there was "lack of ability to understand how the thing came about."

Asked who could be blamed for the bugging incident and money transfer, Finch replied:

"You've got a lot of self-starters in politics. Obviously somebody had to approve it someplace along the line and that's what we're trying to find out."

Doubts Delay

Asked if the Justice Department just might not extend its probe past the November election to avoid embarrassment to the GOP, Finch said he doubted that would happen.

"I think we would be severely criticized, and justifiably so, if it were pushed beyond the election," he said.

He called the bugging affair "the height of idiocy."

Finch, a former Republican lieutenant governor who resigned to join the Nixon

cabinet, said he would make a decision on what his future political plans will be about next June.

Senate Seat

He has indicated an interest in running either for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Democrat Alan Cranston or for the governor's office. Governor Reagan has said he will not seek a third term.

Both political posts come up for election again in 1974.

In the meantime, Finch said he will return to California soon to begin a law practice and acquaint himself with the state's political climate.

He will also teach a class in politics at Occidental College his alma mater.