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Jean Westwood, chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee, told newsmen today that she is fairly sure that an attempt was made last week to bug the party's national headquarters in the Watergate Apartments in Washington.

She said that last week a female employee in the party offices went out into a hallway and saw a huge hole there and some men installing a red box. The men said they were installing fire equipment. Mrs. Westwood said she checked with the fire department and they said that they were not putting in any new fire equipment, and neither was the building management. Mrs. Westwood said the men left while she was going to report the incident, leaving the box filled with wires. She said no one has returned to complete the installation, which was probably begun last Thursday [31 Aug].

Mrs. Westwood said the box and details of the incident have been turned over to the Democratic party's attorneys, who are already investigating the earlier alleged bugging.