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McGovern Break-In 350
By GREGG HERRINGTON
Associated Press Writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. AP - Men working for the Committee for the Re-election of the President were foiled in an effort to break into Sen. McGovern's old campaign headquarters, the Democratic presidential nominee said Saturday.

The break-in was attempted during the early morning of May 27, but was aborted after McGovern's campaign workers and a person sleeping in the doorway scared them off, McGovern told a news conference.

"There's no question in mind that they were connected with the Committee to Re-elect the President," McGovern said.

Campaign chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien Friday reported the alleged break-in effort and told a news conference its purpose was to plant listening devices. Saturday's remarks were McGovern's first public comments on the matter.

The alleged bugging attempt would have occurred less than a month prior to the June 17 break-in of the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate Hotel.

McGovern, in New Mexico for a rest following his first hectic week of full time campaigning for the White House, said President Nixon treats the Watergate bugging "as a kind of caper."

"It's more than that," McGovern said, "It's an apparent crime. That kind of crime has some people in the penitentiary."

McGovern says he knows who attempted the alleged May 27 break-in. "We have the information from a source that was very close to what was happening that night," he said.

But, McGovern said, he has no plans to make the data public. McGovern did not charge that a crime in fact had actually been committed. He said two carloads of men planning to burglarize and bug his Capitol Hill campaign office-from which he has since moved-left after they were apparently spotted by McGovern workers and a person sleeping in the doorway.

McGovern reiterated his call for President Nixon to appoint a special non-government investigator to probe the Watergate burglary as well as the alleged attempt on his campaign headquarters.

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