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'Nixon Is Checking'

NEW YORK — (UPI) — President Nixon is "quietly" checking into the possible involvement of White House staff members in the Watergate case, according to CBS.

CBS newsman Daniel Schorr reported last night that Nixon had ordered White House assistant John Dean to reopen his investigation into alleged links between administration staff members and the June 17 break-in and bugging of Democratic headquarters in the Watergate complex.

"It is believed that the Dean inquiry was resumed after President Nixon was cautioned by acting FBI Director Patrick Gray that the agency had established more serious direct links to the White House than the president might know about," Schorr said in his televised newscast.

"One presidential aide, asking not to be named, told CBS news, 'Don't expect the

president to admit anything before the election, but a lot of people in the White House are appalled at how far things got out of hand.'"

Nixon has said previously that no one now employed in the White House was involved in espionage and sabotage of the Democratic campaign.

According to Schorr, Dean interviewed White House aide Dwight Chapin and Donald Segretti, a California attorney who some reports alleged helped coordinate a nationwide system with the purpose of disrupting the Democratic campaign and to manufacture false and embarrassing campaign material.

"I have absolutely nothing to say. If anything is to be said, Ron (Ziegler) will say it," Chapin said when questioned during Nixon's New York campaign appearance.

A White House spokesman later refused to comment.