

President Betrays Public, Says McG

DETROIT — (CST) — Sen. George McGovern laid his heaviest charge of the campaign to date on President Nixon yesterday, portraying Nixon as one of those officials right at the top of the government who have betrayed their public trust.

McGovern spoke only hours before he said in a paid half-hour national political broadcast that the United States, under the Nixon Administration, was confronted "with both a moral and constitutional crisis of unprecedented dimensions."

In Cleveland earlier in the day, McGovern had given an interview to a local television reporter on the scandals arising out of the Watergate burglary and other reports of political espionage and sabotage allegedly linked directly to ranking White House aides, including Appointments Secretary Dwight Cahpin and Chief of Staff H. R. Haldeman.

Charges Betrayal

"I do think for the first time in the history of America, we have officials right at the top of the government who have betrayed their public trust, who have let down the moral standards of the United States," McGovern told the reporter.

In his broadcast, produced at cost of approximately \$175,000 and filmed several days earlier, McGovern said that "During 18 years in politics, I have never seen such efforts to poison the political dialogue. These Republican politicians have fouled the political atmosphere for all of us who see public service as a high calling."

"They do not seek to defeat the Democratic Party," McGovern said, "they seek to destroy it."

He said that the five men arrested in the mid-June burglary at the headquar-

ters of the Democratic National Committee in the Watergate office-apartment complex at Washington "were part of a nationwide network of at least 50 agents hired by the Nixon campaign to create confusion and division among the Democratic candidates for President."

Part of their job, he told his listeners, "was to distort your impressions of those candidates — what kind of men they were and what they stood for."

All Detailed

He cited a letter that accused Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Me.) of "using insulting language." It was the letter that White House aide Ken Clawson has been accused of writing and it said that Muskie has called Canadian-Americans "Canucks."

McGovern said these and other incidents and plots, all of which have been detailed in press reports, were "paid for out of a secret \$700,000 espionage fund kept in the safe of Mr. Nixon's finance chairman (former Com-

merce Secretary Maurice Stans) and controlled by John Mitchell, even while he was still Attorney General of the United States."

McGovern said that "not one of these facts has been refuted or explained. The only response has been to attack the reporters who searched out the truth."

McGovern said that "on the few occasions when they acknowledge these actions, administration officials use terms like 'caper' and 'prank.'"

Denies 'Prank'

But, he said "the crime of burglary cannot be excused by calling it caper. And \$700,000 worth of espionage is no prank."

The South Dakota Senator has been building "the moral issue" and "the constitutional issue" in his campaign speeches for two weeks or more. His campaign polls show that the dominant issue with voters is "trust" and "credibility" in government.

But so far most national polls do not indicate that voters are responding to the scandal issue, or, if they are, do not relate it to Nixon, but rather to politicians in general.

In the broadcast, McGovern also attacked "special favors" granted to business at the expense of smaller taxpayers and consumers.

Recalls Tragedy

He said that in 1970, "38 older Americans in Ohio lost their lives in a nursing home fire. After careful investigation, authorities traced the cause of that disaster to a highly flammable carpet."

But, he said, when "stronger carpet safety regulations were proposed," they were fought by executives of the carpet industry, who met with "top officials of the Republican campaign. They gave almost \$95,000 for Mr. Nixon's re-election. And

carpet safety regulations were postponed."

In addition, McGovern said, dairy lobbyists, who had been "pressing hard for higher milk prices," gave \$322,000 to Nixon's campaign, and "within a few days," a decision by the Agriculture Secretary was reversed and higher prices were decreed.

Cites ITT Case

He also cited the case in which International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. gave \$400,000 to the Republican National Convention then scheduled for San Diego and an antitrust case against the conglomerate was quashed.

"The company destroyed the evidence of collusion in a shredding machine," McGovern said. "Abandonment of that case meant a billion dollar settlement for ITT, higher costs for you and less freedom in our free enterprise system."

McGovern charged that Nixon "has not revealed the name of a single contributor" of the more than \$10 million Democrats charge was collected in a secret fund before the new law requiring full campaign contribution and cost disclosure went into effect.

He cited the sale of wheat to the Soviet Union in which the administration helped "the big grain exporters take advantage of the family farmers." He also asked why it was that "this administration puts a lid on wages, but lets prices rise on everything you buy."