

Results of a Probe on McGovern's Tactics



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President Nixon's aides, responding to charges that a Republican sabotage squad had damaged the Democratic campaign, claimed the Democrats had pulled similar dirty tricks.

We have just concluded an intensive investigation of George McGovern's undercover operations. We found one crack investigator on the payroll, Walter Sheridan, who was hired to find out the extent of the Republican espionage and sabotage. He also investigated some of the Democrats for Nixon and confirmed McGovern's suspicion that they had usually voted for Republican candidates in the past.

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IT WAS also Sheridan who uncovered the fact that soybean tycoon Dwayne Andreas, who contributed \$25,000 of the money used to finance the Watergate caper, had received a valuable bank charter from the Nixon Administration.

A separate research crew, headed by Ted Van Dyk, dug into the backgrounds of such Nixon cronies as Bebe Rebozo, Elmer Bobst and Clement Stone. The Democratic researchers also searched the public records for information about the President's personal finances. They checked, too, whether big Republican contributors had received any antitrust settlements, price increases or other federal favors.

Van Dyk's volunteers confined their ef-

orts, however, strictly to research. They did no investigating beyond scouring the newspapers and examining public documents. When they came up with facts that might embarrass the President, they attempted to plant the information with reporters.

Before the Democratic convention, we also learned, McGovern compiled personal information on just about every delegate. These individual files were assembled in a computer data bank, although McGovern had denounced the use of computers to keep tabs on people.

During the primaries, McGovern used the fun-loving political prankster Dick Tuck to play a few harmless tricks on Democratic rival Ed Muskie. Those who attended a Muskie coffee klatch in New Hampshire, for example, found McGovern stickers pasted to the bottoms of their coffee cups after they had drained the coffee.

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BUT McGOVERN has refused to allow his supporters to engage in sabotage against the President. Even Tuck's practical jokes, which have been a bane to Mr. Nixon throughout his public life, have been ruled out.

In sum, we found that McGovern's undercover operation doesn't compare to the systematic sabotage, wiretapping and espionage conducted by President Nixon's campaign aides.