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'Deal' on Watergate?

To the Editor:

The mystery of why the defendants in the Watergate break-in so promptly pleaded guilty and denied they had any knowledge as to who sponsored and authorized the affair, and where the money for it came from—an ignorance which strains one's credulity—may, conjecturally, be ascribed to a "deal." If they stay mum and thus play ball with the Administration, their sentences, which may be to many years' imprisonment, will be ended shortly by a Presidential pardon after serving a few months in jail.

If, on the other hand, they could be assured a light sentence in return for telling all, the answers to the questions which the American people would like to have and are entitled to, may be forthcoming.

ERNEST GRUENING
Washington, Jan. 18, 1973