

Demos Leave Watergate

Locking Up the Case

Washington

The Democrats locked the door on a piece of American political history yesterday, saying good-by to their party headquarters at the Watergate apartment complex.

At noon, Mary Lou Burg, deputy chairman of the Democratic National Committee, turned the key in the front door of the sixth floor suite where a burglary last June 17 has rocked the Nixon administration.

It was a symbolic lockout. Workers spent the rest of the day, as they will this weekend, moving the committee's remaining property to the new headquarters on Massachusetts Avenue.

Unlike the June 17 episode, in which five men entered through the front door under cover of darkness, yesterday's scene was bathed in television floodlights. Mrs. Burg turned the key back and forth as cameras snapped.

"Very truthfully, I feel very nostalgic about it," said Martha Sampson, an aide in the Young Democrats' office. "I feel that this is history and we'll never be here again."

One of the several staffers who made use of the phone that was tapped in the Watergate case, she sat at the desk where the tapped phone had been and made calls on its replacement while cameramen took her picture. The original phone was turned over to the prosecutor in the trial that convicted the Watergate burglars.

Over her shoulder one could see the balcony of the room at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge from which the Watergate office was



AP Wirephoto

MARY LOU BURG TURNED THE KEY The Democratic National Committee moved to new offices

bugged. Over there, it was business as usual and the manager declined to take a moment to reflect on what they were calling "a moment in history" across the street.

The usual motivations led

to the move. According to Joseph Carter, director of communications for the committee, by taking 2000 square feet less space at the new location, the party will save \$16,000 a year.

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