A Political Burglary in 1960 Race

New York

Burglars apparently attempted to steal medical records pertaining to John F. Kennedy in July, 1960, before he was nominated for President, it was learned yesterday.

The office of one of his doctors was successfully entered, and his files rifled, whereas a double-door system foiled an attempted entry several days later at the office of a second doctor who was treating the then Senator Kennedy.

The break-ins came to light in the wake of news that two Watergate scandal figures employed by the White, House are alleged to have broken into the office of the psychiatrist of Daniel Ellsberg, a defendant in the Pentagon papers case.

Some person or persons broke into the office of Dr. Eugene J. Cohen, who was treating then Senator Kennedy for Addison's disease.

OFFICE

Dr. Cohen's office was then, and is now, in the heavily patrolled Manhattan House, at 260 East 66th Street in New York.

Cohen discovered the following morning that his files had been rifled, many of them strewn about his office and the adjoining reception area. Entry was gained through a window that faced onto a balcony.

Cohen reported the attempted theft to the 18th Precinct of the New York Police Department, which sent two detectives to investigate. The two never took fingerprints, according to Cohen.

The two policemen immediately knew the thief or thieves were looking for a particular patient's records, Cohen said, because no file cabinets belonging to any of the six other doctors sharing the suite were touched, nor was anything else taken.

In particular, the cabinet housing files of patients whose last names begin with K was, in total disarray, and the lock had been broken.

PSEUDONYM

The burglary failed because Cohen had filed his records on Seinator Kennedy under a pseudonym, a non-

Irish pseudonym.

"There was no question what they were after," Co-hen says, who adds that he immediately phoned Senator Kennedy's secretary, Evelyn Lincoln, to let her know what had happened and to tell her "everything was safe."

A day later, according to the doctor, thieves unsuccessfully attempted to gain entry to the office on 14th street of Dr. Janet G. Travell, who was treating Senator Kennedy's back.

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