

# Ellsberg Snooping Figure May Quit

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Egil (Bud) Krogh Jr., the under secretary of Transportation who has said he accepts full responsibility for the 1971 break-in at the of-

fice of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, is planning to resign his government post today, according to reliable sources.

Krogh, 33, who was an assistant to former White House domestic affairs chief John D. Ehrlichman at the time of the break-in, went on leave last Wednesday.

The reliable sources said Secretary of Transportation Claude S. Brinegar asked Krogh to resign.

Krogh was generally considered "Mr. Clean" at the White House during his tenure there from 1969 to 1972. His duties included liaison with the District of Columbia government.

In addition, Krogh headed a White House group called "plumbers" who were charged with investigating leaks to the news media.

Convicted Watergate conspirators G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt Jr.—participants in the Ellsberg break-in—were members of the "plumbers" group.

Krogh said in an interview published Monday in the Christian Science Monitor that "based on my vantage point today . . . this activity (the break-in) was excessive in an overreaction to the circumstances."

He added, "There may well have been elements of inexperience, amateurism, and overzealousness on my part . . ."

In an affidavit filed with the federal court in Los Angeles where the Pentagon Papers trial is continuing, Krogh said that Ehrlichman played no part in authorizing the break-in.

Erdlichman has told the

FBI that he learned of the break-in after it occurred and issued instructions barring such activity in the future.

On White House official who knows Krogh well said yesterday "Bud was told personally by the President to plug the leaks. The President was very worried and said national security was at stake. Bud always moved the maximum to get the job done; it's a shame because he was one of the very brightest young men in the government."

Krogh confirmed in his affidavit that he "was personally instructed by President Nixon . . . to move ahead with the greatest urgency to determine the source of the 'leaks'" involving the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT).

5/19/73  
w post