

Washington Slows Down

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"Nobody's doin' a damn bit of work aroundhere," said one government official who was camped in front of his television set.

When the Watergate hearings are on, so are most television sets in the White House, government offices, congressional chambers, homes and bars.

Fashionable restaurants report that luncheon reservations are down during the hearings; and local appliance stores say portable TV sales are up.

Although the hearings are telecast nationally, there is special interest in official Washington when the main characters are local people — sometimes even next-door neighbors or business acquaintances.

WEB

Some watch the local drama with the nagging worry that somehow they might become entangled in the awful web.

"I sit in constant fear that somehow my name will come up," said a young White House aide who has worked with several of the Watergate witnesses. "Where your reputation is concerned, it's like a deadly

Nixon Cruises

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President Nixon went for a Potomac river cruise last night aboard the presidential yacht Sequoia on a chilly spring evening.

The White House said he was accompanied by C. G. (Bebe) Rebozo, his close friend from Key Biscayne, Fla.

Associated Press

poison if you're touched."

Others express amazement as the revelations unfold.

"People here can't believe it," said a man working at the Treasury Department where ex-official John J. Caulfield worked until his name surfaced in the Watergate affair.

"Nobody's doing much of anything. Everyone is glued to the news reports."

PHONE

When the Senate is in session, television sets are turned on in the cloakrooms

just off the Senate floor where members can make phone calls, get a snack, or in this case, catch up on news reports.

At the Cost of Living Council, the Health, Education and Welfare Department, the Justice Department and on Capitol Hill, government employees can be found clustered around any working television, listening intently.

In some government departments, however, it's business as usual. Sources at the State Department and Pentagon report that the daily briefings are on time and that most people are working in their offices.

HURT

Other Washingtonians insist the Watergate hearings have hurt business.

"It's been dragging here," said Paul DeLisle, maitre d' of the fancy Sans Souci restaurant near the White House. "A lot of people did not show up yesterday. I guess they were home watch-

They do show up at the Shoreham Hotel at night, however, where comedian David Fry imitates Mr. Nixon before a full house.

But for most, of course, there's not much humor in

Watergate.

"I just wish it would go away," said a White House researcher. "It's like a very bad dream."

Associated Press