

# Employee Lie Tests Admitted

Washington

The State Department admitted yesterday that three of its employes were given lie detector tests by the Central Intelligence Agency in 1971 as part of White House efforts to trace the source of a "news leak" regarding U.S.-Soviet arms control talks.

The department said in a statement that the tests were administered on request of Egil Krogh Jr., then an assistant to President Nixon's chief domestic adviser, John D. Ehrlichman.

Krogh was in charge of the so-called "plumbers group" which was investigating information leaks. He agreed to go along with plans to steal files from Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office in Beverly Hills, Calif. in September, 1971.

A State Department spokesman John King said Secretary of State William P. Rogers, "concurred in the White House request, provided our employees voluntarily agreed to take the test

and that if they decided not to take the test, it would not be considered against them."

It was the first time the State Department had acknowledged that polygraph tests were given some of its officers shortly after a July 22, 1971, New York Times story containing information about the negotiating position the United States was taking in secret strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union.

King declined to identify the State Department employees, but said they "demonstrated their innocence to our satisfaction."

The spokesman volunteered an explanation as to why the CIA was designated by the White House to conduct the tests:

"Since it was apparently the policy of the director of the FBI not to allow the FBI to polygraph employees of other Government agencies, the CIA provided the technicians to work under the direction of our security office."  
*United Press*