

Hoffa Says Watergate Panel Aims to Instill Insecurity

PITTSBURGH, May 22 (AP) —The televising of the Senate select committee's Watergate inquiry is designed to "instill a feeling of public insecurity," says James R. Hoffa, former president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

And the hearing is being conducted "for the sole purpose of those individuals who will be actors," Hoffa said last night.

The former teamster official, released from Federal prison on executive clemency from President Nixon after serving more than four years for jury tampering, equated the media's role in Watergate with his own trial and subsequent incarceration.

He said the media had invaded his privacy and exaggerated the facts, relying much on hearsay, "the same as they are doing now in Watergate."

Israel Sees No Effect on Ties; Reports of a Tap Taken Lightly

Special to The New York Times

JERUSALEM, May 22 — Prime Minister Golda Meir described the Watergate scandal as a "sad and disturbing affair," but said it had had no effect whatsoever on relations between the United States and Israel.

"Any friend of the United States and of the President feels said about it, naturally," she told a luncheon of the Foreign Press Association here. "But as far as relations between our two countries are concerned, nothing has changed."

Mrs. Meir also laughed off reports that the telephone of the Israeli Embassy in Washington had been tapped and that conversations between herself and her Ambassador to Washington, Lietu. Gen. Itzhak

Rabin, had been recorded in 1970.

"I don't know if it's true," she said with a smile, "but anybody that talks on long-distance telephone calls must realize that somebody else is listening somewhere. It does not necessarily have to be in Washington."

The account of the alleged wiretapping of the Embassy phone was the leading story in the Israeli papers and on Israeli radio today.

There was no editorial comment on the story, but commentators speculated this evening that Israel might ask for an explanation of the report from the United States.

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