

'Unused' Spy Plan Under F.B.I. Study

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WASHINGTON, June 1—The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into the possibility that elements of the Nixon Administration's master plan for domestic intelligence gathering were put into operation despite President Nixon's assurance that the proposal "never went into effect."

Mr. Nixon acknowledged the existence of the so-called "1970 intelligence plan" in a long statement last week on several aspects of the Watergate case.

He disclosed at one point that the "unused" intelligence program, which was drawn up in response to increasing campus and urban unrest, included provisions for "surreptitious entry" by Federal agents in the course of national security investiga-

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tions.

Federal investigators believe that the plan's "breaking and entering" clause may have been used to support a number of covert burglaries, including some laid to members of the special investigations unit at the White House, but they have not yet determined which Administration officials, if any, authorized its use.

The F.B.I. is now examining a copy of the secretary intelligence program, as are investigators for the Senate Watergate committee. The Senators received their copy of the document from John W. Dean 3d, who removed it from the White House shortly before he was dismissed April 30 as the President's legal counsel.

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina, chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, said yesterday that he had seen the plan and that its contents "would be a great shock to the American people if they were released."

The Senator said he interpreted the papers as "an effort or a plan to set up an operation to spy on the American people in general, or at least on those who didn't agree with the Administration."

Sources close to Mr. Dean have said that the former Presidential lawyer feels that certain portions of the documents, which he originally placed in the safety deposit box of an area bank, would implicate Mr.

Nixon in some aspects of the Watergate scandal.

But Mr. Ervin told newsmen in Winston-Salem, N.C. yesterday that he had not yet seen anything in the plan that supported Mr. Dean's alleged belief. The Senator did say, however, that "those making this plan had the same mentality employed by the Gestapo in Nazi Germany."

He added that he would ask Federal intelligence officials to look over the documents "to see what should not be released," but that most of them could probably be made public by the committee.

Two Principal Areas

The F.B.I.'s investigation is focusing on two principal areas: The September, 1971, burglary of the Los Angeles office of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist, and a series of four break-ins in 1971 and 1972 at the offices and residences of Chilean diplomats here and in New York City.

E. Howard Hunt Jr., a former member of the special investigations unit who pleaded guilty in the Watergate bugging case, has told a Federal grand jury that he and G. Gordon Liddy directed the unsuccessful attempt to steal Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatric records.

Liddy, convicted in the Watergate trial in January, was also a member of the special investigations unit. In his statement, Mr. Nixon described the unit as a small group at the White House whose principal purpose was to stop security leaks—they were nicknamed "plumbers"—and to investigate other sensitive security matters.

The F.B.I. has not yet determined who was responsible for a break-in at the Chilean Embassy in Washington and break-ins at the residences of three Chilean diplomats in New York City.

There have been reports that Liddy and Hunt also supervised the tapping of telephones used by two reporters for The New York Times after the newspaper published parts of the Pentagon papers in June, 1971, and that some of the "plumbers" conducted other covert operations, including break-ins, against the Berrigan brothers, the Black Panther party and the Chicago Seven while they were involved in Federal criminal proceedings.