

Report of Colson Plan For Break-In

Washington

Charles W. Colson, former special counsel to President Nixon, suggested to a White House intelligence operative that an office in the Brookings Institution here be burglarized and then firebombed, according to allegations made to investigators in the Watergate case.

Colson, one of the most powerful figures in the first Nixon administration, denied the allegations this week.

Colson allegedly made the burglary and firebombing suggestion in 1971 to John J. Caulfield, a former New York City policeman then working as an undercover espionage agent for the White House, according to four different sources involved in the Watergate investigation.

The target of the action, the sources said, was to be an office in the Brookings Institution then occupied by Morton Halperin, an associate of Daniel Ellsberg and the object of a White House initiated wiretap from spring 1969, to June 1971.

Caulfield and former White House counsel John W. Dean have told federal investigators that Colson suggested that Halperin's office be burglarized and that the illegal entry then be disguised by firebombing the premises, the sources reported.

According to the sources, Caulfield told investigators he immediately rejected Conson's alleged proposal as "totally insane," and informed Dean that he did not wish to be further associated with Conson.

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