

GOP Coverup Hurt Us, Says McGovern

Washington

Senator George S. McGovern (Dem-S.D.) said yesterday that Republican espionage tactics had little effect on the 1972 presidential election, but "the results would have been vastly different" if the voters had known about the coverup.

McGovern assessed the political effects of GOP "dirty tricks" on his unsuccessful Democratic presidential

campaign in a television interview ("Thirty Minutes With..." PBS).

"I have no doubt in my mind that if the people of this country knew in October of last year or November last year, what they know now about this administration, the election results would have been vastly different," McGovern said.

Asked why the voters apparently were not interested in the Watergate last fall, when he was charging that the Nixon administration was "the most corrupt in history," McGovern replied:

"The American people, understandably want to believe in the president. They want to believe in the White House. They want to believe in our government.

United Press