

Dean Tells Of a 'Friend' In the CIA

Washington

John W. Dean III testified yesterday he had been told by a top Nixon aide that the White House had put its own "good friend" into the Central Intelligence Agency in order to "have some influence over the agency."

That "good friend," Dean told the Senate Watergate Committee, is Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, deputy director of the CIA and frequent interpreter for President Nixon on foreign trips.

This latest disclosure of alleged White House efforts to involve the CIA in domestic activities came amidst increasing demands by Congress for tighter control over the top secret agency.

CONFIRM

Dean's testimony yesterday confirmed earlier accounts by Walters and other CIA officials of White House efforts to get the agency to shoulder the blame for the

break-in at Democratic National Committee headquarters.

At the same time, the Dean testimony appeared to shed light on what had been a publicly unanswered question: Why had the White House passed over Richard M. Helms, at that time director of the CIA, to negotiate almost solely with his deputy on the Watergate matter?

Dean testified that L. Patrick Gray III, then acting director of the FBI, suggested to him that the break-in might have been a CIA operation because of the number of former agency people involved.

EHRlichman

Dean said that he later told John D. Ehrlichman, the President's domestic affairs adviser, of the Gray suggestion and that Ehrlichman told him to call the CIA and explore the matter.

"He then told me that I should deal with General Walters because he was a good friend of the White House and the White House had put him in the deputy director position so they could have some influence over the agency," Dean testified.

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