

Nixon Campaign Chief Amazed by Testimony

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 30 (AP)—The man who managed President Nixon's reelection campaign says he is surprised and embarrassed by information being made public before the Senate Watergate Committee.

"I can hardly believe what I'm hearing," Clark MacGregor told newsmen Friday. "It's almost impossible to understand . . . I saw no reason to suspect I was being lied to."

MacGregor's deputy in the Committee for the Re-Election of the President, Jeb S. Magruder, has told the Senate committee MacGregor was "completely in the dark throughout the entire campaign" about the Watergate break-in conspiracy and cover-up.

MacGregor said he is embarrassed that he accused The Washington Post last October of using "unsubstantiated charges, anonymous sources and huge scare headlines" to connect Watergate to the White House.

MacGregor said he is withholding judgment for the present on whether the President knew of and/or participated in the cover-up.

He said it is "not only plausible, but likely" that the truth about Watergate was kept from the President by his two top aides, H. R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

As he was preparing to take over the campaign last July, MacGregor said, numerous senators and congressmen complained to him that their "personal messages were not getting through to Mr. Nixon."

MacGregor, a former Minnesota congressman, has been vice president of United Aircraft Corp. since the election. He spoke with reporters after attending a two-hour seminar Friday on government at Macalester College.