

# Secret Service Man Tied To Spying on Democrats

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WASHINGTON, AUG. 9—James C. Bolton Jr., a Secret Service agent assigned last year to guard Senator George McGovern of South Dakota, the Democratic Presidential nominee, agreed to pass political information to the White House, according to a confidential memorandum cited Thursday night by The Washington Post.

The Post reported in its Friday editions that the charge was based on one of several documents outlining White House efforts to elicit information from various Government agencies in an attempt to discredit Democratic Presidential contenders or their supporters.

According to the published reports, which did not name any source for the information, the efforts began early in 1971 and were aimed at Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, Lawrence F. O'Brien, the former Democratic party chairman and several staff members and fund-raisers working on behalf of Senator McGovern.

The New York Times reported during the campaign last fall that a member of the Secret Service detail assigned to guard Senator McGovern had provided information to the President's re-election campaign. The identity of the agent was not established at the time and the Secret Service said that the report did not appear to be true.

The Post account said that Mr. Bolton was identified in an Aug. 16, 1972, memo from Steve Karalekus to his superior, Charles W. Colson, then a White House special counsel.

The memo was said to have recited Mr. Bolton's willingness to relay information through his father, an administrative aide to Representative Glenn R. Davis, Republican of Wisconsin. According to the account, Mr. Bolton's father would in turn pass the information to Max L. Friedersdorf, a Congressional liaison official in the White House.

The Post said that the elder Mr. Bolton had confirmed one instance in which he had conveyed information but could not recall any others. Mr. Colson could not be reached for comment.

Officials of the Senate Watergate committee, which is preparing to investigate allegations of campaign sabotage next month, said that they were not familiar with the memorandum or several others cited in the account.

The memos, most of them classified "confidential," were

said to have demonstrated a pattern of efforts to obtain information from the Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service and the Departments of Commerce and Interior that might be used to discredit key Democrats.

## 'Republican Skeletons'

According to The Post article, however, a number of the attempts went awry because it was feared that use of the information would "shake loose Republican skeletons from the closet."

Most of the other memos that were cited as having been "reviewed" by The Post dealt with efforts to persuade officials to inquire into suspicions of misdealings in the pasts of Democratic candidates or officials. There was no indication that any of the inquiries had borne fruit.

The memos were said to have been written by or to such former officials as H. R. Halde-man, who was the White House chief of staff; John W. Dean 3d, the dismissed White House counsel; John N. Mitchell, the Attorney General, and W. Richard Howard, assistant to Mr. Colson.

According to the published report, Mr. Bolton had told his father of a visit by Senator McGovern to an alleged subversive in Massachusetts. The Post said that a subsequent memo, addressed to Mr. Dean on Oct. 26, had described the incident as wholly inaccurate.

But the initial memo was said to relate that "Bolton's son has promised to keep his dad informed of these and any other kinds of activities."

## Investigation Under Way

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (AP)—The Secret Service said today it was investigating the allegations that Mr. Bolton had passed information about Senator McGovern to the White House. A Secret Service spokesman said the report, if true, would be grounds for disciplinary action.

At the White House, the deputy press secretary, Gerald L. Warren, said he had not seen the alleged memos. Noting the Secret Service plans, he said, "I don't think I should say anything from here that would interfere with that investigation."

When asked if President Nixon ruled out any information-gathering on political opponents as a function of the Secret Service, Mr. Warren said the function of the Secret Service was clearly defined by law "and that is the way the President perceives it."