

**'Unjustified'****Rogers Blasts  
Burglary in  
Ellsberg Case****Washington**

Secretary of State William P. Rogers said yesterday that the United States must not become "so obsessed with security matters that laws are freely violated."

"One of the things that provides security for Americans is the fact that we are a law abiding nation," he said at a news conference at the state department. That includes "protection for all individuals, and a protection for individual rights," he added.

Rogers specifically condemned the break-in of the office of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist by the White House "plumbers," directed by E. Howard Hunt Jr. and G. Gordon Liddy. The two were among those later convicted for the Watergate burglary in June 17, 1972.

**CARE**

"I think great care should be shown before any extra legal action is undertaken," Rogers said, asserting that he does not believe the security considerations were sufficiently grave and serious to justify the burglary of Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office."

The break-in of Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office in Sep-

tember 1971 grew out of an investigation launched by the White House into Ellsberg following the publication by the New York Times of excerpts from the so-called Pentagon Papers.

Rogers, regarded as a close friend of President Nixon, responded to several questions on Watergate at the news conference.

He indicated that it is sometimes hard to draw the line between what should be done in the name of security and what should not be done, particularly in the case of wiretapping.

"But generally speaking," he said, "I lean toward strict observance of legal requirements and only support a variance from that in very unusual circumstances."

**RUMORS**

In recent weeks, there have been rumors in Washington that Rogers would step down as secretary of state this fall, to be replaced by Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's national security adviser.

The first question asked at the news conference — his first in Washington since February 15—was about his future plans, and he declined to comment.

Rogers did say that his

spokesman had correctly stated previously that Rogers has no desire either to serve on the Supreme Court or take an ambassadorship, two possibilities often rumored.

On other points, Rogers said:

- Talks with North Vietnam to provide U.S. economic aid will not resume until the Communist government lives up to the Vietnam cease-fire agreement

by withdrawing its military forces from Cambodia and Laos.

- Successful Soviet testing of missiles with multiple warheads "has somewhat reduced prospects" for an agreement with the United States to limit qualitative improvements as well as the number of missiles stocked by the two powers. He said the United States intends to improve its weaponry as well.

*New York Times*



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**Secretary Rogers cited the need for protection of individual rights**