A Report Scissors Were Used on Ellsberg Papers

New York

White House documents given to the Watergate special prosecutor's office were altered to delete written authorization by former presidential aide John Erlichman for the "plumbers" unit to obtain material from Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, Time magazine reported yesterday.

Time said it had learned that one of the White House documents the FBI is studying is a memo to Ehrlichman from Egil Krogh and David Young, both members of the "plumbers" unit, suggesting ways to get information on Ellsberg.

A paragraph recommending that "a covert operation be undertaken to examine all the medical files still held by Ellsberg's psychoanalist" had been crudely cut out, apparently by scissors, the magazine said.

Also removed was Ehr-

lichman's penciled notation of approval of covert action "if done under your assurance that it is not traceable," Time said.

The magazine gave no source for its information. The plumbers, White House aides and others later carried out a burglary in

search of files, Time said. United Press