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Butz Says

Post Trying To Get Nixon

BRADENTON, Fla., May 22 (AP)—Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz said The Washington Post is trying to get President Nixon but the government goes on "in spite of Watergate."

"The Department of Agriculture is a big department with a lot of work to do, and we continue on in spite of loss of confidence in the executive, in spite of the fact that a the public rating of Congress is even lower than that of used car salesmen," he told a civic club meeting in this Florida Gulf Coast city Tuesday.

Asked if he thought news media were out to get the President, Butz said, "The media is a pretty general term, and I don't think you can class the media as such.

"I think the Washington Post is. Mrs. Graham has indicated publicly, in conversations she's indicated, and it's been reported, that she is going to get him, and she's doing a pretty good job of it." Butz said. Katherine Graham is publisher of The Washington Post.

"Mrs. Graham has indicated no such thing, publicly or privately," Benjamin C. Bradley, executive editor of The Washington Post, commented. "Mr. Butz doesn't know what he is talking about."