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Report Asked on 'Plumbers' Spending

Rep. Edward R. Roybal (D-Calif.) asked the General Accounting Office yesterday for a report on spending for White House domestic intelligence activities.

A member of the House Appropriations subcommittee that passes on the White House budget, Roybal asked for an audit on the White House "plumbers" unit and the Intelligence Evaluation Committee for the last four fiscal years.

The "plumbers" unit, which was set up in mid-1971, carried out the burglary at the offices of Daniel Ellsberg's California psychiatrist. The Intelligence Evaluation Committee, according to a statement by President Nixon last year, was created in December, 1970, to improve "coordination among our intelligence agencies."

Roybal said he was asking for the GAO study because repeated requests to the White House and the Office of Man-

agement and Budget concerning expenditures for the two units had been brushed aside.

He charged that the withholding of the information bordered "on arrogance and contempt for the appropriations process and the public's right to know how its money is being spent."

"There is little doubt that the White House obsession with domestic surveillance resulted in serious threats to due process and our basic

right to privacy," Roybal said in a statement.

Roybal said the OMB has taken the position that "the intelligence evaluation unit was a Department of Justice organization, not a White House organization" and "therefore, no White House personnel were assigned to it."

The California Democrat said this conflicted with Mr. Nixon's own statement last year.