

## Watergate Reporters

# Looking for a New Story

By Jerry Carroll

The two tireless young crime reporters whose Watergate investigation helped bring President Nixon to the brink of impeachment would like nothing better than to get the whole thing out of their hair.

In fact, Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward said yesterday that after two years and ten days of digging into one of the worst political scandals in the nation's history they would like to get their teeth into the Hearst kidnaping.

"There's no question that's the great story. It has everything in it—family, the police role...it's even got some sex," Bernstein said yesterday in San Francisco.

Bernstein, 30, and Woodward, 31, give a lot of thought these days to what they will do after the final curtain falls on the seemingly endless drama of Watergate.

Not that the whole ugly business has been without its rewards. Their book, "All the President's Men," is selling like crazy and Robert Redford will star in a movie based on it.

But the oddly matched pair—Woodward is sort of a stuffy sobersides and Bernstein looks like he needs a nap—doesn't intend to let riches and fame get in the way of their journalism.

"There are lots of reporters," Woodward said. "who are always telling you about

the big story they had five or ten years ago." He says it with distaste.

"We'd be crazy if from here we said, 'Now where are we going to find another big story?'" Bernstein added.

The two were picked more or less at random by Washington Post editors to pursue the case after the burglary of Democratic National Headquarters.

The big breakthrough Bernstein and Woodward had in the case was an administration tipster they called Deep Throat. He proved invaluable in steering them onto the right investigative tracks.

Woodward, who dealt with Deep Throat in underground

garages at ungodly hours, refuses still to identify him, doesn't know whether his name ever will be known, won't say whether he is still in the government or has left, nor even if the Deep Throat is pleased at the way things have gone.

If nothing else, Woodward said, Watergate has proven that the American political system works. "that there's a certain level of accountability for those who hold great power. The issue is the Constitution, really—that we have laws that can be applied to these people."



Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward slouched on a couch in their San Francisco hotel room