Nation Digest

SFExaminer FEB 6 1977 Nixon role in burglary?

WASHINGTON — Former White House counsel John Dean says there is tape-recorded proof that Richard Nixon personally ordered subordinates to burglarize Washington's Brookings Institution in 1971.

In an interview in the March issue of Book Digest, Dean also said he is convinced the June 1972 Watergate burglary itself was "set up at his (Nixon's) general request." During the Watergate investigations, Dean and others testified the "White House Plumbers" burglary unit had been ordered to break into the Brookings Institution, a research organization, in search of evidence on the Pentagon Papers leak. Dean now says: "I was in prison and they were interviewing me about other cases. Suddenly one investigator said, "You know, I was listening to a (White House) tape on an unrelated case, and you'll be interested to know that I heard the President give orders to rifle the files at Brookings. To get in there and get that stuff out.'"