Judge Dismisses Coercion Charges Against Sturgis

A Criminal Court judge yesterday dismissed all charges against Frank A. Sturgis, a convicted Watergate burglar, in connection with alleged telephone threats to Marita Lorenz, former spy.

Judge Edwin Torres acted on a motion by Assistant District Attorney Alan Broomer, who said his office had reviewed seven tapes of telephone coversations between Mr. Sturgis and Miss Lorenz and found no evidence that he had threatened her.

"A lack of any substantiation of her charges impairs her credibility," Mr. Broomer said.

The prosecutor said the tapes contained "two amiable conversations" but "no threats." He said the taped material and documents were being made available to the United States Attorney's office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the House committee that is investigating the slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

Henry Rothblatt, defense counsel for the 53-year-old Mr. Sturgis, said, "I concur," when Mr. Broomer made his motion and Judge Torres dismissed the case.

Mr. Sturgis had been arrested late Monday night at Miss Lorenz's apartment, at 88th Street and York Avenue. Two detectives met him at the apartment and arrested him for alleged coercion and harassment, which Miss Lorenz asserted she had been subjected to by the defendent.

Police Commissioner Michael J. Codd, meanwhile, has begun an inquiry to determine whether Mr. Sturgis's civil rights were violated when he was arrested.

When Mr. Sturgis arrived at Criminal Court yesterday morning, he was approached by Aaron Kay, who has made a practice of throwing banana cream pies in the face of various personalities.

He sought to make a similar target of Mr. Sturgis, but the latter spotted him and took a quick side-step, leaving most of the pie on the ground and on Mr. Kay's shirt.