

ACLU Moves To Throw *FBI* Out Seven Convictions *4/21/73*

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American Civil Liberties Union Wednesday moved to have the convictions of the seven Watergate trial defendants thrown out because they "resulted from ... frauds upon the court."

The ACLU asked permission of U.S. District Court to file a brief in support of Watergate conspirator James W. McCord Jr.'s motion for directed acquittal or a new trial.

"Those convictions should be set aside and the defendants retried under a properly drawn indictment which charges all of those responsible for the Watergate conspiracy regardless of their station in life," the legal document said.

E. Howard Hunt and four of the men arrested inside Democratic Party headquarters June 17, 1972, pleaded guilty to conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping. They await final sentence.

McCord, the fifth man arrested inside the Watergate complex offices, and G. Gordon

Liddy—described as mastermind of the plot—stood trial and were convicted. Liddy has been sentenced to a minimum 6 years, 8 months. McCord's sentencing, scheduled for June 23, has been postponed because of his motion.

Late Wednesday it became known that discharged White House lawyer John W. Dean III quoted President Nixon as saying last year that he might use wiretapping against political opponents after being told by the late J. Edgar Hoover that wiretapping had been used against him in the 1968 campaign.

Dean told Senate investigators the conversation took place last Sept. 15 after the indictments against the Watergate Seven were handed down.

The summary obtained by a reporter did not elaborate on this point, but a Senate source said Dean had testified the conversation referred to future use of bugging.