

SFC
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When a Watergate Burglar Was Fired

Washington

The CIA fired Watergate burglar Bernard Barker in the mid-1960s because he was involved with "gambling and criminal elements," according to former CIA director Richard Helms.

Barker is the man who worked for E. Howard Hunt Jr. during the Bay of Pigs Cuban invasion.

In the spring of 1971 Barker recruited, at Hunt's request, the Cuban burglary team that broke into the Los

Angeles office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist and subsequently was caught in the Watergate break-in.

Helms' testimony, given to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee behind closed doors on Feb. 7, 1973, was made public yesterday. The hearings were to confirm Helms' appointment as ambassador to Iran.

Barker's attorney, Daniel F. Schultz, denied Helms' description of why Barker was terminated by the CIA.

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