

O'Brien Denounces 'Political Spying'

By ROBERT WALTERS
Star Staff Writer

The FBI and local authorities are probing a five-man break-in at Democratic national headquarters which party Chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien has labeled an "incredible act of political espionage."

O'Brien's statement came yesterday after the Associated Press disclosed that one of the five men arrested and charged with the break-in is the chief security officer for both the Republican National Committee and the Nixon re-election campaign.

The chief counsel for the Democratic National Committee said today he is "definitely contemplating" a civil legal action in the case.

The action presumably could give the Democrats a chance to seek subpoenas to compel sworn testimony from high officials of the Republican party on whether or not there is a connection between the Republicans and the break-in at the Democratic headquarters.

Joseph Califano, general counsel for the Democrats said today he will in all probability file some legal action in U.S. District court here tomorrow.

Califano said he is "not quite sure" exactly what action will be taken.

Other sources, however, said that in all likelihood the Democrats will file an invasion-of-privacy suit against the Republicans, basing such a claim on the fact that one of the men arrested is the security officer for the GOP groups.

Top officials of the Republican party and the Nixon campaign yesterday deplored the break-in and said it was not done "on our behalf or with our consent."

The five men arrested inside.
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BERNARD BARKER
Alias
FRANK CARTER



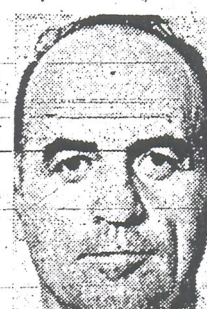
FRANK STURGIS
Alias
FRANK FIORINI



EUGENIO MARTINEZ
Alias
JEANE VALDES



VIRGILIO GONZALES
Alias
RAOUL GODOYN



JAMES McCORD JR.
Alias
EDWARD MARTIN

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the Democratic party offices at the Watergate about 2:30 a.m. Saturday allegedly had cameras and electronic bugging equipment, although the film had not been exposed and the snooping equipment had not been installed. The men were being held in lieu of bail.

O'Brien called for the "most searching professional investigation." The Justice Department announced that the FBI is investigating Metropolitan Police and the U.S. attorney's office also are involved.

The security aide to the GOP is James W. McCord Jr., who worked for the FBI from 1948 to 1951. He was employed by the Central Intelligence Agency from 1951 to 1970 and now operates his own consulting firm in Rockville.

McCord joined the staff of the Committee for the Re-election of the President as its "security coordinator" in January of this year. He was on the committee's payroll at least as late as last Friday, the day prior to the break-in.

Protects Building

According to officials of the committee, McCord was the highest ranking security official employed by the organization, established to coordinate Nixon's re-election drive. Public records show that he has been receiving take-home pay of \$1,209 a month.

Similarly, a spokesman for the Republican National Committee said "we have a contractual relationship with his (McCord's) company to furnish security services for our building," the party headquarters on Capitol Hill.

GOP officials said the services provided by McCord's firm included installing television cameras and other electronic monitoring devices to detect intruders and providing guards for the GOP headquarters.

There were other reports of ties between the Republicans and those involved in the apparent effort to "bug" the DNC offices and to photograph documents:

• The New York Times said another of the five men arrested, Bernard L. Barker, was "the apparent leader" of the raiding party and had been "identified . . . as an affluent Miami realtor with important Republican party links in Florida."

• The Miami Herald reported that Barker and one of the other men arrested, Frank A. Sturgis, participated last month in a Miami meeting to organize a downtown parade of Cuban exiles in support of Nixon's decision to blockade Haiphong harbor in Vietnam.

• Washington lawyer Douglas Caddy, who served as an intermediary in enlisting the services of another attorney to represent Barker immediately

following his arrest, was identified as an active participant in Republican political affairs since the late 1950s.

Shortly before 2 a.m. Saturday, a security guard in the Watergate Office Building, where the DNC offices are located, became suspicious when he noticed that the lock on a door had been taped to prevent it from functioning.

Held in D.C. Jail

He summoned police, who arrested McCord, Barker, Sturgis, Eugenio R. Martinez, a real estate agent and notary public in Florida, and Virgilio R. Gonzales, a locksmith. All five were held in the District Jail over the weekend because they were unable to post the bond set in their case.

McCord's bond was set at \$30,000, with bond for the other four fixed at \$50,000 each. Joseph A. Rafferty Jr., attorney for all the defendants, said he planned to go into court today or tomorrow to seek a reduction in the bond to \$2,000 per man.

Police also said that \$5,300, in consecutively numbered

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\$100 bills, was found in possession of the men and in their hotel rooms in the adjoining Watergate Hotel. They were registered for one night.

The source of the money and the purpose of the break-in were among the important questions still unanswered.

Asked about possible motives, Metropolitan Police Det. William Casey, the arresting officer, said: "We beat our heads together on that and we couldn't find a reason for it."

Casey said robbery had been ruled out as a likely motive. When asked about the possibility of political espionage, he said: "That's one of the things we've thought of."

The FBI was reliably reported to have taken responsibility for a major portion of the investigation, invoking federal jurisdiction on the grounds that the suspects may have been attempting to violate the prohibition in the Safe Streets Act of 1968 against electronic eavesdropping by private parties.

Car Returned

The FBI was known to have taken possession of the electronic devices and photographic equipment confiscated from the arrested men. A 1972 Chrysler bearing Virginia license plates, believed to have been rented by the suspects, was inspected by the FBI then returned to the Avis rental agency at National Airport.

The Nixon re-election committee issued a statement yesterday in the name of John N. Mitchell, the former attorney general now in charge of the President's campaign, which said "we want to emphasize that this man (McCord) and the other people involved were not operating either in our behalf or with our consent."

The Mitchell statement added:

"The person involved is the proprietor of a private security firm who was employed by our committee months ago to assist with the installation of our security system.

"He has, as we understand it, a number of business clients and interests, and we have no knowledge of those relationships. . . . There is no place in our campaign or in the electoral process for this type of activity and we will not permit it nor condone it."

Dole Statement

The Republican National Committee then issued a statement in the name of its chairman, Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kans., which acknowledged that McCord "is the owner of a firm with which the committee contracted for security services," then added:

"His actions were not on our behalf nor with our consent. If our understanding of the facts is accurate, we will, of course, discontinue our relationship with the firm. We deplore actions of this kind in or out of politics."

But the Democratic National Committee distributed a statement in the name of chairman O'Brien who said the incident "raised the ugliest questions about the integrity of the political process that I have encountered in a quarter century of political activity."

O'Brien's statement added: "No mere statement of innocence by Mitchell . . . will dispel these questions—especially as the individual allegedly involved remains on the payroll of the Nixon campaign organization."

"Only the most searching professional investigation can determine to what extent the Committee for the Re-election of the President is involved in

this attempt to spy on Democratic headquarters.

"I call upon Atty. Gen. (Richard G.) Kleindienst to order an immediate and thorough investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This investigation must remain open until we know beyond a doubt what organization or individuals were behind this incredible act of political espionage."

DNC spokesman Joseph hope that the results of the FBI's investigation will be fully disclosed to the public by the attorney general in complete detail."

"I know the White House would not want to interfere, either with the investigation or the disclosure," he said.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield told newsmen "I don't think the Republican Committee had anything to do with it." He noted both Mitchell and Dole had denied it and said "I think they are speaking the truth."

McCord's role as a full-time employe of the Nixon re-election committee was first documented by the AP, drawing on a public financial report filed by that committee on June 10 with the General Accounting Office.

That report listed McCord, with his home address of 7 Winder Dr., Rockville, as receiving \$1,209 monthly in salary during April and May. Although the financial report covers only the period since April 7, committee officials later acknowledged that McCord was hired in January.

Paid for TV

In addition, the financial report listed an \$830 payment to McCord at his home address for television equipment rental, and three payments to him or his firm, McCord Associates, Inc., of 414 Hungerford Dr., Rockville.

In that latter category were \$1,091 for security services, \$915 for equipment purchase and rental and \$303 for television rental.

McCord has made a trip to Miami, site of the Democratic and Republican conventions this summer and home of the other four suspects, during the past several weeks, according to a spokesman for the Nixon re-election committee.

The aide at the Nixon committee said the trip was part of the effort to plan security arrangements at Nixon's headquarters hotel for the Republican convention, but Democrats noted that they, too, will be using the same hotel as their convention headquarters six weeks earlier. They quickly ordered that it be "swept" for possible electronic "bugs."

Neighbors said McCord lives in a two-story brick, colonial style house worth about \$45,000, is married and has three children, one of whom, Michael, 19, is a junior at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Neighbors said McCord was active in GOP politics at the precinct level and had been seen handing out GOP literature at polling places in Montgomery County elections.

Neighbors said McCord sometimes taught a class in security procedures at Montgomery County Community College.

McCord in March, 1971 was under contract with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) as an instructor in a course it conducted for General Services Administration building guards.

An IACP spokesman said McCord first came to the association's attention in 1970 when he was seeking resource material for a security training course he was teaching elsewhere.

McCord was described by friends as an ardent Republican but "not a right-wing type." One neighbor, Edward C. Ettin, 4 Winder Court, stressed that McCord was a "rational, intelligent person," "one of the finest men I know."

Another neighbor said McCord was very friendly with his neighbors. Although he was talkative and friendly, neighbors said McCord did not talk much about details of his work.

According to the New York Times, Barker was one of the principal planners of the CIA's abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961. Barker was an important link between the CIA and the Cuban exile army, during the pre-invasion period, played a role in establishing secret invasion bases in Guatemala and Nicaragua and served as a conduit for CIA money passed to the Cuban exiles, the Times said.

Spoke at Meeting

Barker is a partner in a Florida real estate venture with Miguel R. Suarez, a Cuban exile lawyer prominent in Republican politics in Miami.

The Miami Herald said that Barker and Frank Sturgis, also known as Frank Fiorini, appeared last month at a meeting of Cuban exiles in Miami and addressed the group although neither had been invited to speak. Both were reported to have supported the demonstration in favor of Nixon's decision to mine Haiphong harbor.