

Florida Drops Plans For Watergate Case

Post 9/11/73

MIAMI, Aug. 31 (AP) — State Attorney Richard Gerstein says he has called off his attempt to bring state charges against Watergate figures after meeting with Justice Department special prosecutor Archibald Cox.

"They rather positively asked us not to go forward with any prosecution at this time. I agreed to honor this request," said the Dade County state attorney, who met Thursday with Justice Department officials in Washington.

Gerstein said he has agreed to stop his probe until Dec. 5, when the term of the Washington Watergate grand jury expires.

Gerstein said he would con-

sider continuing his own prosecution if federal prosecutors take no action by Dec. 5 against Watergate figures involved in a Miami meeting.

Gerstein claimed jurisdiction in the case after former Nixon campaign deputy Jeb Stuart Magruder testified that illegal wiretapping was approved by administration officials during a meeting at Key Biscayne, Fla.

Magruder has pleaded guilty on a single count of conspiring in covering up the wiretapping but has not been charged by either state or federal officials with planning the break-in at Democratic headquarters last June.