

Motives Questioned JAN 22 1973

Phone Tapper Hunted Threats

WASHINGTON (AP)—Alfred C. Baldwin III, self-described undercover agent for President Nixon's re-election campaign, testified today that he was ordered to look for potential threats to the campaign committee, its headquarters and even the President himself.

Baldwin, who said last week that he monitored wiretapped phone calls as an employe of the Committee for the Re-Election of the President, was asked on cross-examination about the motives behind his earlier undercover work.

He responded that he was hired by James W. McCord Jr. to do security work with the Nixon campaign.

MCCORD, FORMER chief of security for the Nixon campaign committee, is one of the two remaining defendants in the Watergate political espionage trial. The other is G. Gordon Liddy, who was counsel to the campaign's finance committee.

The testimony came as Time magazine said it learned that one of the seven original defendants, E. Howard Hunt Jr., offered money to four other defendants as an inducement to plead guilty.

Baldwin said one of his early assignments was to attend protest demonstrations.

"Mr. McCord told you he was primarily concerned with threats of violence, did he not?" defense lawyer Gerald Alch asked.

"NOT IN those words, no," Baldwin answered.

But asked to detail the instructions, Baldwin said McCord had told him there were "three or four things he wanted me to determine for him. That was one of them."

In response to a series of short questions, Baldwin said he was asked specifically to look for threats from demonstrations to the Committee for the Re-Election of the President and its headquarters building.

Asked about instructions to look for threats to the President's safety, Baldwin said, "That was mentioned once, but briefly.

"HE SAID something like if you do get anything like that turn it over to us and we will turn it over to the Secret Service," Baldwin said.

Alch had said earlier in the trial he would make no effort to deny McCord's participation in various political espionage activities, including McCord's arrest during a break-in at Democratic Party headquarters last summer.

But he said he would try to prove that McCord was justifiably motivated by fear of violence to the Nixon campaign.

Earlier today, attorney Michael Douglas Caddy testified that E. Howard Hunt Jr., another of the Watergate defendants who pleaded guilty early in the trial, had phoned him and later come to his apartment in the pre-dawn hours of June 17, the morning of the Watergate break-in, seeking

legal counsel.

Caddy's testimony was halted temporarily by the debate over whether it should be allowed because of a lawyer-client relationship with Hunt at the time.

TIME MAGAZINE said Hunt offered the other four \$1,000 a month apiece for each month they spend in jail. It said the admissions of guilt Hunt's lawyer, William O. by Hunt and the others "stayed off" testimony that the operation had been approved by other persons.

Bittman, said Hunt "categorically and emphatically denies" the magazine story.

Time magazine said Hunt recruited the four to bug the Democratic offices saying: "It's got to be done. My friend Colson wants it. Mitchell wants it."

The magazine said this was a reference to former Atty. Gen. John Mitchell, who was also Nixon's campaign manager for a time, and to Charles Colson, a special counsel to President Nixon.

IT DIDN'T say where it obtained the information.

Of the statement attributed to Hunt that the operation was desired by Colson and Mitchell, Bittman said:

Hunt "categorically and emphatically denies ever making that statement or any similar statement." He said it "is absolutely false—not only false factually but false in that he absolutely did not mention it or anything similar to that to ... Time."

"The Time magazine report as it concerns me is an absolute falsehood," Mitchell said in a statement today. "Never at any time have I said anything that could have been construed as condoning the Watergate incident. On the contrary, I have said many times that I deplore and condemn it."