

# Expensive Line-Up of Legal Talent Enters Case of Raid on Democratic Office

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WASHINGTON, July 9—An array of famous and expensive legal talent has entered the case of the June 17 raid on the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate complex here.

The five suspected raiders, three of whom remain in a local jail, face criminal prosecution in the District of Columbia on burglary charges, a possible Federal indictment for conspiracy and a \$1-million civil lawsuit entered by the Democratic party against them and the Republican party for allegedly violating the civil rights of Democratic candidates for office.

Electronic eavesdropping devices and microfilm photograph-

ing equipment were found on the suspects when they were arrested.

One of the defendants is Bernard L. Barker, a wealthy, Cuban-born Miami realtor who played an important role in the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba organized by the Central Intelligence Agency. His defense lawyer is Henry B. Rothblatt, a well-known New York criminal lawyer who often appears as counsel in major controversial cases.

### Defended Army Officers

In 1969, Mr. Rothblatt, a tall, thin, dapper man with a pencil moustache, defended Col. Robert B. Rheault and five other officers of the United States Army's Special Forces on charges that they had

murdered a Vietnamese double agent. As part of his defense Mr. Rothblatt charged that the C.I.A. had lied about its role in the murder.

Last year, Mr. Rothblatt helped to win acquittal in a court-martial for Col. Oren K. Henderson on charges that he had covered up evidence and made false statements in the investigation of the 1968 massacre of civilians at My Lai in South Vietnam.

Mr. Rothblatt will defend Mr. Barker in the two criminal and the civil actions.

Gerald Alch is representing James W. McCord Jr., who was the security chief for both the Republican National Committee and the Committee to Re-elect the President until the June raid, and who earlier

had been the C.I.A.'s internal security head. Mr. Alch is a partner in the Boston law firm headed by F. Lee Bailey, one of the nation's most noted criminal lawyers.

Mr. Alch will defend Mr. McCord, who is free on bail, in the criminal cases, with Mr. Bailey supervising the case.

But Mr. Rothblatt, who co-authored five basic books on criminal law with Mr. Bailey, is understood to have agreed to represent Mr. McCord in the civil suit.

### 3 Other Defendants

Mr. Rothblatt is also expected to assume the defense of Eugenio R. Martinez, Virgilio L. Gonzales and Frank Fiorino, the three other defendants, all of whom have past C.I.A. ties.

Mr. McCord and Mr. Martinez are the only defendants in the case who were freed on bail by the District of Columbia Superior Court. Last Friday, the District Court of Appeals declined to overrule Superior Judge James Belson on his demand that the three other defendants remain imprisoned until they disclose in open court the source from which they would raise bail money.

Their lawyers were reported to be considering an appeal to the Chief Justice of the United States, Warren E. Burger, on the ground that refusal of bail violates the defendants' rights under the Eighth Amendment.

The attorney for E. Howard Hunt Jr., a mystery figure in the case, is William O. Bittman, a noted Washington crim-

inal lawyer. He was the assistant United States attorney who at the age of 32 won the conviction of James R. Hoffa, the former president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, on fraud charges. Three years later he successfully prosecuted Robert G. Baker, one-time Senate aide, for tax evasion, theft and conspiracy to defraud the government.

Mr. Hunt, who was one of the top coordinators of the Bay of Pigs invasion and who retired from the C.I.A. in 1970 has not been charged with any offense.

But he was linked with the Watergate raid when his name was found in the address books of Mr. Barker and Mr. Martinez at the time of their arrest.