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SFChronicle
Watergate
Story Tapes
Subpoenaed

Washington

The Los Angeles Times was ordered yesterday to produce in court next Tuesday its tape recordings of an interview with Alfred C. Baldwin III, a principal government witness in the Watergate bugging case.

Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the U.S. District Court here, acting at the request of a defendant in the pending criminal proceeding, approved subpoenas for three Washington representatives of the Times.

John Lawrence, the newspaper's bureau chief here, who was among those subpoenaed, said the Times would oppose making the tapes available.

Also subpoenaed were Jack Nelson and Ronald J. Ostrow, who filed reports for the Times based on Baldwin's description of the raid on the offices of the Democratic National Committee and of related events.

Attorneys for E. Howard Hunt Jr., one of the seven men indicted in connection with the June 17 breakin, have argued that they need the tapes for the possible impeachment of Baldwin when he appears as a prosecution witness.

N.Y. Times Service