

Bug at Demo HQ

Watergate Trial to Open Tomorrow

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WASHINGTON — In front of the White House, the carpenters have hammered together the reviewing stands for the inauguration of President Nixon's second term.

But only a few blocks away, at the corner of Constitution Avenue and John Marshall Place, events are preparing to unfold in the U.S. Courthouse that may cast long shadows over the President's second administration.

The Watergate bugging case, carrying the promise of becoming one of the most celebrated political trials of the century, opens tomorrow.

And already the presiding judge has made clear to the U.S. attorney prosecuting the case and to the Justice Department that he wants more questions answered than they appeared to be eager to raise:

"This jury is going to want to know the purpose (of the break-in and bugging of the Democratic National Committee headquarters). What did these men go into the headquarters for? Was their

sole purpose political espionage? Were they paid? Were there financial gains? Who started this? Who hired them, if anyone hired them? A whole lot is going to come out in this case."

Thus Chief Judge John Sirica of the U.S. District Court advised Justice Department lawyers that he wants the whole story told in the trial of the seven men indicted in the raid of the Democrats' Watergate headquarters last June.

The seven, charged variously with conspiracy, interception of oral and wire communications, burglary and unlawful possession of intercepting devices, are:

● George Liddy, a former White House and treasury aide who was fired as counsel for the Committee to Re-elect the President when he refused to answer FBI questions.

● Everett Hunt Jr., who had been a White House consultant working under top Nixon aide Charles Colson. Hunt had worked in the Central intelligence Agency with some of the other defendants at the time of the 1961 Bay of Pigs fiasco.

Reports that the Justice Department has negotiated with the Watergate defendants in an effort to convince

● Jame W. McCord Jr., security coordinator for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, a former FBI radio specialist and CIA security chief until he retired in 1970.

● Bernard L. Barker, Miami real estate executive and former CIA agent, born in Cuba. Convicted of unlawfully notarizing a \$25,000 Republican campaign contribution check. He was given a suspended 60-day term.

● Eugenio Martinez, an employee of Barker, active in the anti-Castro movement in Miami.

● Frank A. Sturgis, self-described "soldier of fortune" and a Barker associate.

● Virgilio Gonzalez, an associate of Barker who was employed as a locksmith in Miami.

All the ingredients appear to be at hand to guarantee a high powered trial: The cast of characters, the reports of political intrigue and cloak and dagger operations, the devious routes of funds from political contributors through a bank in Mexico and into the hands of one of

the break-in defendants, and the alleged connections to powerful men in the White House.

them to plead guilty in order to avoid holding the trial — and the questions Judge Sirica raised — have been

turned aside by a brief "no comment" from Justice Department spokesmen.

The Justice Department

and other principals in the case are under a stern order from the bench not to discuss it out of court.