

Judge Queries Watergate Witness Who Can't Recall to Whom He sent Wiretap Data

U By WALTER RUGABER
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 22—The judge in the Watergate trial, saying that neither side was developing "all the facts," questioned a witness today about his delivery of wiretapping data to President Nixon's campaign organization.

The witness, Alfred C. Baldwin 30, had said under direct examination by the Government on Friday that he once sent information derived from illegal eavesdropping to someone at the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

But Mr. Baldwin, who had monitored a telephone in the offices of the Democratic National Committee, testified that he could not recall the name of the person to whom the data had been addressed.

Midway through the defense cross-examination today, Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the United States District Court here sent the jury from the courtroom and examined Mr. Baldwin himself, often in skeptical and ironic terms.

The judge said he felt it was "perfectly proper, and the duty of a judge when he feels all the facts have not been developed by either side," to question witnesses personally.

Thought It Was 'Legitimate'

Mr. Baldwin, a former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, stuck closely to his previous testimony. He said he had thought the bugging operation against the Democrats was a "legitimate" one.

Under questioning by the Government, he said he had been hired to monitor the wiretap by James W. McCord Jr., a defendant in the case who was security coordinator for the re-election committee.

"Weren't you suspicious that something was wrong when you were told to use an assumed name?" Judge Sirica asked. He also asked whether the use of an alias had not suggested that some "hanky panky" was involved.

"Not the use of a name, no, your honor," Mr. Baldwin replied.

Judge Sirica then recalled the witness's testimony concerning Mr. McCord's instructions to deliver "logs" of wiretapped conversations during a two-day period to the Nixon campaign headquarters.

"What is the name of that party [to whom the data was addressed]?" the judge demanded.

"I do not know, your honor," Mr. Baldwin replied.

"When did you have a lapse of memory as to the name of that party?" Judge Sirica asked.

In F.B.I. Interview

"The first interview with the

F.B.I.," the witness responded. "I believe we went over several names at that time. And we went over several names thereafter, and the only thing I recall is when the name was given me the first name I assumed was the last name."

"What was the first name given you?" the judge inquired. "I used the reference 'Glenn' because a friend of mine, his last name is Father Glenn, I used that as a reference and we tried to establish the name of the individual."

It later appeared that Mr. Baldwin had used his friend's name as a general example of a person with a last name that could also be a first name and

that the name "Glenn" itself had no specific meaning.

"Here you are an F.B.I. agent," Judge Sirica said. "You knew the log was very important, and you want the court and jury to believe that you gave it to some guard [at the re-election committee] you hardly knew. Is that your testimony?"

"He told me he would deliver it," Mr. Baldwin said.

"You let it rest there?" the judge pressed.

"I did, because of the previous procedures at the committee," the witness replied. He did not elaborate.

The question was again ex-

plored on subsequent cross-examination by Peter L. Maroulis of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., an attorney for the second defendant in the trial, G. Gordon Liddy.

Mr. Baldwin said that when Mr. McCord gave him what proved to be the surname of the re-election committee official, it was "one that I could not spell, and as I recall it was a Germansounding name."

Mr. Maroulis, seeking to impeach Mr. Baldwin's credibility as a witness, asked whether he had in fact picked out as the re-election committee official a name suggested by the F.B.I.

"And did you relate that the

name you picked out, was Sedan?" he asked.

"It wasn't picked as being the person," Mr. Baldwin replied, putting stress on the article "the." "It was one of the names picked that we pulled from a group of names to think about."

Glenn J. Sedan (Mr. Maroulis spelled the name with an "N") served as counsel to the Nixon committee after Mr. Liddy was shifted from that post to become the lawyer for the organization's finance unit.

There have been reports that at one point Mr. Baldwin named Mr. Sedan as one of the persons to whom the wire-

tapping information had been delivered.

Mr. Maroulis asked Mr. Baldwin whether he knew that Mr. Sedan was an employe of the re-election committee, and Mr. Baldwin replied that he had read it in the newspapers. At this point, the attorney changed the subject.

Mr. Sedan has denied that he received information from the wiretapping operation.

Mr. Baldwin's answer did not always appear to deal directly with the questions, and on several points neither Judge Sirica nor Mr. Maroulis pursued the witness.

Mr. Baldwin appeared to mean that F.B.I. investigators had raised Mr. Sedan's name, along with the names of others at Nixon campaign headquarters, but that Mr. Baldwin had never said Mr. Sedan had received the information.

Mr. Baldwin said at one point that his testimony about "Father Glenn" had been "just given as an alalogy." Glenn, he declared, was "not the name" he wrote on an envelope containing the wiretapping material.

Earlier today, the former

F.B.I. agent was asked about a radio he had used to receive signals from the wiretapped telephone. He asked whether the question referred to a receiver introduced in evidence and cited its exhibit number—105.

After Mr. Baldwin's testimony was completed, the Government called a Washington lawyer, Douglas Caddy, who said that Mr. Liddy has paid him a \$1 retainer hours after five other men had been arrested in the Democratic committee offices on June 17.

Mr. Caddy has maintained

that he is protected by the attorney-client privilege from answering some questions about Mr. Liddy's statements.