

Watergate Figure's New Jail Sentence

Miami, Fla.

Convicted Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis, due to be paroled on March 7, was given an additional nine-months of his burglary sentence for conspiring to transport stolen cars to Mexico.

Sturgis, who has served 14 months of his burglary sentence, was convicted last November on two counts of conspiracy in connection with a stolen car ring.

Sturgis was sentenced by U.S. District Judge C. Clyde Atkins.

Lawyer Ellis Rubin pleaded with the judge for leniency in sentencing his client, whom he characterized as a "man who loved his country not wisely but too well."

"If it had not been for Watergate, this case would never have gone to the grand jury for an indictment," Rubin said, noting that the alleged conspiracy took place in 1968.

Sturgis said he acted out of patriotism and that his trips to Mexico had nothing to do with stolen cars but

were part of "a military operation" waged against the Fidel Castro regime in Cuba.

Associated Press