Florida Official Fails to Find Proof of Hotel

By JOHN M. CREWDSON Special to The New York Times

authorities in Miami are investigating the bizarre possibility that, less than a month after
the ill-fated Watergate wirethat the plans were actually
tapping plot was uncovered, a carried out.

Signed snortly after the Watergate break-in. The rent was
paid with a check drawn on the
arrests of McCord and four othMiami Beach First National
Bank, which had assisted in the
arrangements at the Fountainbleau reservation was changed
bleau

has acknowledged that his investigators have found no evi-

Mr. Gerstein's office is concentrating on two Republican
of the reservation to Edward
J. Hamilton, one of the aliases
during the week in mid-July
of last year when hundreds of
Democratic delegates were caucusing in beachfront hotels and
at the Miami Reach convention

Wanted Account

Although he closed and
ocked the apartment, which
Mr. Madrigal insisted in a
had been leased in May by the recent interview that he did
not know either Liddy or
and returned after the Democratic convention

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Although he closed and
Ocked the apartment, which
Mr. Madrigal insisted in a
had been leased in May by the recent interview that he did
not know either Liddy or
cratic convention was over, edge of any electronic surveilmr. Nostrand has told investi-lance at the Fontainebleau durgators that he found signs that ing the Democratic convention center to select Senator George idential candidate.

by the New York Times has said in an interview that he office, said he was attempting cute former Attorney General established that White House could not remember who had to learn whether anyone occuand re-election committee offigiven him the name of "Hamilthe Cotagon Towers apartsons on conspiracy charges
ment, an otherwise apparently
the Fontainebleau Hotel at the "someone in Washington."

Legitimate office of the Nixon
March, 1972, at Key Biscayne,
the Democrate was attempting cute former Attorney General
to learn whether anyone occujohn N. Michell and other percials rented a suite of rooms in ton" except that it had been
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legitimate office of the Nixon
March, 1972, at Key Biscayne,
time the Democrate was a tempting cute former anyone occupied the Octagon Towers apartsons on conspiracy charges
growing out of the meeting in
legitimate office of the Nixon
March, 1972, at Key Biscayne,
the Company of the March of the Company of the C time the Democrats were con- He explained that the bank re-election committee, during Fla., at which the Gemstone vening there, and also took an which is owned by a brother the week that it was supposedly operation was allegedly apartment across the street from of former Senator George A. closed.

The \$3,700 six-month lease Jeb Stuart Magruder, who blocks away blocks away.

operation, but the connections count of the Nixon re-election committee treasurer who redate from before June 17, and committee, which it ultimately signed shortly after the Water-WASHINGTON, Oct. 5-The although they may have been received.

"second team" of Republican Acting on information re- for a third and last time-to agents was sent to tap tele- ceived from Justice Department Edward D. Failor, an official of phones and bug hotel rooms sources, The Times requested the Committee for the Re-elec-

Requested Rooms

dence to substantiate his "con-porters for The Times and the Failor, now a Commerce De-by the police in a room at

"We're convinced it hap-following sequence of events:
pened," Mr. Gerstein said in a telephone interview yesterday, "but we're still seeking proof bead of the White House's Contact White House's Con He conceded that, "for the phoned Michael Thompson, a paid by the Nixon re-election before June 17 a floor plan of based on plans allegedly made lican candidate for the Florida said that everything that october Nixon campaign officials State Legislature, and asked curred there was "aboveboard." wiretapping operation crossed months before the arrests at that a suite of rooms be real He has described the operation court. months before the arrests at that a suite of rooms be re-He has described the operation out.

which were to have been part Govaert, then an executive of Mr. Nostrand, who now of the "Gemstone" intelligence, the Miami Beach First National heads the Miami area's bicen-

executive, but Mr. Govaert was tion center. Mr. Gerstein's office is con-

Wanted Account

McGovern as their party's Pres- in the Belgian Air Force who during his absence. ential candidate. Is now an executive of a Miami Amonth-long investigation land development company, vestigator in Mr. Gerstein's ment from attempting to prose-

tel's spa wing, was occupied another of the convicted Water-Thus far, investigative retion week of July 10 by Mr. The notebook clusion" that an illegal bugging inquiry by Mr. Gerstein's office partment official; Powell Moore, Watergate hours after the early-have ben able to establish the a re-election committee spokes-morning arrests in the Demo-

Moved to Hotel

Mr. Nostrand, who now neers "all locked up." gathering effort, have been dis-Bank, who asked another bank closed by James W. McCord official to reserve the rooms.

Jr., one of the convicted Watergate conspirators, in testimony before the Senate Watergate Mett, a nephew of the bank committee and elsewhere.

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Martinez another member of the Watergate break-in team.

Mr. Govaert, a former pilot the apartment had been used Mr. Gerstein, a Democrat,

can, had become involved in for the two-bedroom facility served Both of these room facilities the transaction because it was was signed by Hugh W. Sloan Mitchell while he headed the are linked to the Watergate soliciting the convention ac-Jr., the former Nixon finance Nixon re-election campaign,

Listed by Barker

The only indication that the Octagon Towers apartment may National Convention in July of office look into the possibility According to Stephen D. Nos-planning for a second wire-tast year.

That the Republican wiretap-trand of the committee's youth tapping operation in Miami tapping operation in Miami tapping operation in Miami tapping operation in Miami tapping operation and tale Richard M. Gerstein, the pinging plot had not been aban-state attorney in Dade County, doned in the wake of the self, the suite, on the sixth phone number in a notebook which includes Miami Beach, Watergate break-in.

the Democratic National Comserved at the Fontainebleau as a listening post aimed in When he asked how the bugmittee's Watergate offices in Hotel during the Democratic part at determining "how bitter the non-McGovern deleto the hotel, McCord related,
Mr. Thompson passed on Mr.

Mound to Hotel

Mr. Thompson passed on Mr.

Mound to Hotel

Mr. Thompson passed on Mr.

Mr. Thompson passed on Mr. of the Fontainebleau's engi-

The name of Fernando Mad-

said that he was recently dis-

deputy to Mr.

has testified that his former superior approved the wiretap operation at the Key Biscayne session.

McCord has said he was told by Hunt that the plans for the Miami phase of the operation were approved at the same

time.

Watergate prosecutor, reportedly convinced Mr. Gerstein not to bring a conspiracy indictment against Mr. Mitchell and the others on the ground that the overt act involved the Watergate bugging and occurred outside his jurisdiction. However, if Mr. Gerstein could demonstrate that one of the efforts discussed at the meeting—namely, the Miami operation — occurred within Dade County, his argument for prosecuting those involved would be considerably strength.

would be considerably strengthened.,