

4 Being Hunted in Inquiry Over Raid on Democrats

NYTimes

By WALTER RUGABER
Special to The New York Times

JUN 22 1972

WASHINGTON, June 21—The authorities are searching for four men who rented rooms at Washington's Watergate Hotel with four other men who have been accused of breaking into the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee last Saturday.

The four who are being sought were linked with the accused men by notations on hotel records indicating that all eight are connected with an organization called Ameritas, according to ranking officials of the metropolitan police.

Details of the group were sketchy. One of the men arrested in the raid, Bernard L. Barker, is reported to be a partner in a Miami real estate concern that is registered under that name.

Other sources described Ameritas as a right-wing, anti-Castro political organization, with 1,200 to 1,500 members, which has been operating in the Miami area for about five years. This could not be immediately confirmed.

Details of the group were sketchy. Unofficial informants described it as a right-wing, anti-Castro organization with 1,200 to 1,500 members. It is said to have been operating in the Miami area for about five years.

Meanwhile, Republican sources said that John N. Mitchell, chairman of President Nixon's re-election campaign, had quietly ordered an inquiry of his own to determine what, if any, relationship existed between the group that staged the raid and the Nixon organization. The Democrats have accused the Republicans of a role in the raid.

Mr. Mitchell has publicly denied any such link and was described today as satisfied that no senior official at the re-election committee or on the White House staff had any connection with the incident.

But he has undertaken a precautionary check, using committee employes as well as private investigators. Until today, White House spokesmen had been saying that the responsi-

bility for the investigation rested solely with the Justice

Continued on Page 44, Column 1

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Democratic National Committee has sued the re-election group for \$1-million for alleged invasion of privacy.

Inspector Ernest Prete, head of the Criminal Investigations Division of the Washington police, refused to identify the four being sought. He said they stayed at the Watergate during the weekend of May 26-29.

The inspector said he was uncertain whether they had used aliases in registering. One is from Kansas City, two from New York and one from Miami, Inspector Prete reported. One used a Spanish surname, he added.

It was understood that a national search was under way. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is directing the investigation of the Saturday raid, is coordinating the hunt.

Inspector Prete and other sources confirmed that four of those arrested at gunpoint inside the Democratic party offices also stayed at the hotel on the May 26-29 weekend.

They are Bernard L. Barker, Eugenio R. Martinez, Frank Sturgis and Virgil R. Gonzales. The fifth man arrested then, James W. McCord Jr., resides in the Washington area.

All five are said to have had various relationships with the Central Intelligence Agency. Mr. McCord was discovered, moreover, to be a security consultant for the Committee to Re-Elect the President.

There was continuing speculation here and in the Cuban community in Miami that unnamed men banded together, in or out of the Ameritas organization, to carry out a number of politically sensitive operations.

The men were said to be eager to win the Government's sympathy for 30,000 to 40,000 Cuban refugees living in Spain, who want permission to enter

the United States as resident aliens.

In addition, there has been some speculation that Cuban refugees were apprehensive about any possibility that the Democratic party platform committee might recommend recognition of the Castro regime.

As a consequence of this speculation, there has been renewed official and unofficial interest in a number of incidents that took place here in the seven weeks or so before last weekend's burglary.

Sometime during the weekend of May 13-14, there was burglary at the chancery of the Embassy of Chile, a country governed by a Marxist-oriented leadership.

The burglars rifled the offices of Orlando Letelier, the ambassador; Fernando Bachellet, chief of the political section, and Andres Rojas-Wainer, the press attache. Desks and files were searched.

An embassy spokesman said today that some papers might have been photographed. He said that several cheap items were stolen and that a number of more valuable objects were ignored.

Door Tampered With

On the morning of May 16, members of a law firm in Washington discovered that the door to their offices had been tampered with during the previous night. It was unclear whether or not entry had been made.

The offices are occupied by Freed, Drank, Harris, Shriver & Kampelman. They are situated on the tenth floor of a second floor office building in the Watergate complex, adjacent to the structure holding the Democratic quarters.

The partners include Patricia Roberts Harris, chairman of the Democratic party's rules committee; Sargen Shriver, former director of the Peace Corps, and Max M. Kampelman, a leading adviser to Senator Hubert H. Humphrey.

Richard B. Beryman, another

member of the firm, said that because nothing had been taken from the offices it was assumed they had not been entered. This was reappraised after last weekend's burglary, however.

Similarities Noted

Mr. Berryman noted certain similarities between the two incidents. For example, he said, tape was used in both cases to prevent door latches in the buildings from latching and locking.

Several police sources considered this peculiar. They said the best burglars used wooden matchsticks to jam the doors because the tape is highly visible. The taped doors led to the capture of the five men Saturday.

On May 28, while the eight men were reported by the police to have been at the hotel, a burglary was committed at the Democratic headquarters. There was a second apparent raid June 7.

The men captured Saturday morning had electronic bugging and eavesdropping devices. They examined a number of memorandums and other papers.

Inspector Prete said today that the metropolitan police were assembling the records of all burglaries reported in the Watergate complex over the last several months to search for similarities.