

Ex-Chief of SEC Disbarred For Minor Role in Watergate

Washington

G. Bradford Cook, former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission was disbarred by the Supreme Court yesterday for his minor role in connection with the Watergate scandals.

The Nebraska Supreme Court earlier suspended Cook from practicing law in his home state. The U.S. Supreme Court in April gave Cook 40 days to argue why he should not be disbarred.

Cook, 40, never has been convicted of a crime. He admitted, however, that in 1973 he testified falsely before a federal grand jury in New York City when asked about conversations he had with Maurice Stans, then treasurer of ex-President Nixon's Committee to Re-elect the President.

Cook said he lied when telling the grand jury that he had not informed Stans about an SEC investigation of a \$200,000 contribution to the committee by fugitive financier Robert Vesco.

Cook later recanted his testimony

and became a key prosecution witness in a criminal trial in which Stans and former Attorney General John Mitchell were acquitted of charges in connection with the \$200,000 donation by Vesco.

It was during that trial that Cook admitted lying three times to the grand jury and giving false testimony to a Senate subcommittee.

Cook practiced law in Nebraska and Chicago before joining the SEC staff. He advanced to become general counsel of the SEC and later became its chairman. He resigned in 1973, two months after his grand jury appearance.

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