

'Leader' in Wiretap Try

-- A Bay of Pigs Planner

SFChronicle

N.Y. Times Service

JUN 19 1972

Washington

Bernard L. Barker, the apparent leader of five men arrested early Saturday for breaking into the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee here, was identified yesterday as an affluent Miami realtor with important Republican party links in Florida.

Barker also was said to have been one of the top planners of the Central Intelligence Agency's abortive

invasion of Cuba in 1961.

Private and official sources who know the five suspects and their background said that the leader was the Cuban-born Barker who, under the code name of "Macho," acted for the CIA in planning the Bay of Pigs operation.

One of the other men arrested is James W. McCord, a former employee of the CIA who is currently em-

See Back Page

From Page 1

ployed as a security agent by both the Republican National Committee and the Committee for the Re-Election of the President.

The police said that file drawers in the Democratic committee headquarters had been opened and that ceiling panels near the office of the committee's chairman, Lawrence F. O'Brien, had been removed. Presumably, it would have been possible to place the eavesdropping equipment behind the panels and to photograph the contents of the files.

At the time of his arrest, Barker gave his address as 955 First street southwest, Miami. That is the office of Miguel R. Suarez, a Cuban exile lawyer prominent in Republican politics in Florida.

Barker is president of Barker Associates Inc., a real estate company. That address is 2301 Northwest Seventh street, Miami. But he also is Suarez's partner in a separate venture.

A reconstruction of the background of those allegedly involved in the raid on the Democratic headquarters suggested that all at different times had had links with the CIA and anti-Cuban operations.

The most important among them appeared to be Barker. According to Miami sources, politically active during the Bay of Pigs period, Barker was one of the principal links between the CIA headquarters and the Cuban exile army during the pre-invasion period.

Barker was said to have played a role in establishing the secret invasion bases in Guatemala and Nicaragua and to have served as one of the conduits for CIA money to the exile army.

Barker, now a United States citizen, is closely associated with Captain Manuel Artime Buesa, the military leader of the invasion. Artime, who now lives in Miami, is reported to have business connections with prominent Cuban exiles in Miami who in turn have links to the Republican party.



UPI Telephoto

BERNARD L. BARKER
Florida GOP ties

According to his acquaintances, Barker started a real estate venture four years ago, specializing in the sale of lots. Later, he entered into association with Suarez, who heads a law firm in Miami, for the sale of condominium apartments.

Their condominium company is situated in Suarez's offices whose address Barker gave the Washington police when he was arrested.

Suarez represented the Cuban community in Florida in dealings with Claude R. Kirk Jr., the former Republican governor of the state.

There was no evidence to indicate that Suarez or Artime were in any way connected with the Washington raid.

As for McCord, he had played, according to his former associates, a relatively minor technical role in the preparations for the Bay of Pigs. He joined the CIA in 1951.

A third alleged raider, Frank Sturgis — also known as Frank Fiorini — was reported to have been involved in the Bay of Pigs preparations in an active manner but in a lesser capacity than Barker.

He is an American and a former Marine.

The two other alleged members of the raiding party — Eugenio R. Martinez and Virgilio R. Gonzales, both of Miami — were also reported to have been active in anti-Cuban movements.