

'Watergate' Notary Booked

MIAMI — (UPI) — Bernard Barker, a new figure in the break-in at the Democratic party headquarters in Washington's Watergate complex, surrendered today to face charges of fraudulently notarizing a \$25,000 check.

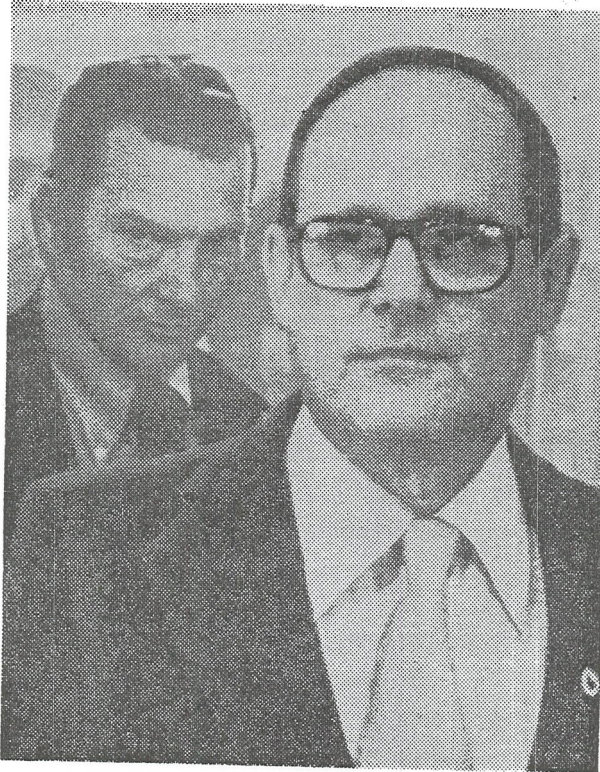
His attorney, Henry Rothblatt of New York, entered a plea of innocent for Barker and predicted that he would not implicate any high political officials in his trial.

"If he gets into trouble, he takes his own medicine," Rothblatt told a crowd of newsmen and photographers after Barker surrendered to Dade County state attorney Richard Gerstein.

Judge Paul Baker set bond at \$1000 and tentatively scheduled the trial for Oct. 30. Barker, wearing a blue suit and blue tie, immediately posted bond and remained free after being booked.

Rothblatt told newsmen he had instructed Barker not to talk about the case and said he planned to remain silent himself so that the case could be "tried in the court."

Barker, a Miami real es-



WATERGATE FIGURE IN COURT TODAY
Bernard L. Barker after being released on \$1000 bail
—UPI Photo

tate broker and former CIA operative, is one of five men arrested by Washington police inside Democratic head-

quarters early June 17 with electronic eavesdropping equipment.

The \$25,000 cashier's

check provided the first major link between the break-in at the Watergate complex and President Nixon's re-election campaign.

Gerstein said Barker "falsely and fraudulently swore that Kenneth Dahlberg had signed the check in Barker's presence, when in truth and in fact this is not true and Barker had never met and had not seen Kenneth Dahlberg."

Barker's notary public seal appears on the back of the check, notarizing Dahlberg's signature. Dahlberg is midwest finance chairman for the Committee to Re-Elect the President.

Florida law states that a notary public must "require a reasonable proof" of the identity of any person whose signature he notarizes and the person must be present at the time of notarizing.

Conviction on the charge could bring Barker a prison sentence up to five years.

Dahlberg got the check April 10 in Boca Raton, Fla., and he said he gave it to Maurice Stans the following day in Washington. Stans,

former Secretary of Commerce, is Nixon's chief fundraiser.

Barker presented the check for cashing at Mi-

ami's Republic National Bank April 19, the same day he deposited four Mexican cashier's checks totaling \$89,000 in his account.