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Watergate Trial Scheduled Eight Days After Election

WASHINGTON (AP) — The trial of the seven men charged in connection with the breakin and alleged bugging of Democratic National Headquarters will start Nov. 15.

The action Tuesday by Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the U.S. District Court sets a date eight days after the Nov. 7 presidential election, confirming earlier indications that a courtroom airing of the case would not come before the election.

Democrats have alleged that the bugging was planned by President Nixon's re-election organizers.

Sirica did not consult attorneys for either side before setting the date. He said he acted to comply with guidelines that call for holding trial within 60 days of the indictments, returned in this case on Sept. 15.

DEFENSE attorneys have proposed Dec. 18, Jan. 8 or Jan. 22 for the trial to start, saying the Nov. 15 date gives them too little time. They said they would appeal to seek a delay.

Sirica said he will hear de-

fense arguments Oct. 25 for a change of venue, for a continuance and for dismissing the indictments.

Elsewhere, The New York Times reported today that Donald H. Segretti, named in news reports as a key figure in efforts to sabotage Democratic political activities, has been linked with phone calls to the White House and a man indicted in the Watergate case.

The Times said it has learned that at least 28 calls were made to the White House, to the home of Dwight L. Chapin, an aide to President Nixon, and to the home and office of E. Howard Hunt Jr.

Hunt, a former White House consultant, has been indicted in connection with the break in.

SOME OF the calls made last spring by the 31-year-old gretti, a lawyer, were made from his home telephone and others were charged to his credit card, the newspaper said.

Segretti has denied news re-

ports concerning his involvement in an espionage campaign.

The newspaper said at least six calls were made to the White House from Segretti's phone or were billed to his credit card — one in April and five in June. In late March, the story said, an unlisted number in suburban Maryland was called, and a woman who answered that phone Tuesday confirmed that it was Chapin's home.

On at least 19 occasions from March to June the unlisted number of Hunt's office at Robert R. Mullen & Co., a Washington public relations firm, was called from the Segretti phone and billed to him, the Times said. Also, the story continued, two calls were placed in that period to Hunt's home in Rockville, Md.