

States-Item

NEW ORLEANS

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Watergate Plot Linked To White House Phones

WASHINGTON (AP) — A police officer testified today that a search of the hotel rooms occupied by some of the Watergate political espionage and burglary defendants produced a personal telephone directory with numbers at the White House and the Executive Office Building.

Officer Robert G. Denell said the rooms were searched after hotel keys were found in the pockets of five men captured inside Democratic party headquarters last June.

Denell said he found in a dresser drawer a flip-up phone number file containing under the H-index page, the entry Howard Hunt, the abbreviation W-House and the number 202-456-2282, a number on the White House exchange.

THE OFFICERS said also listed was the name George and the number 202-347-0355. Asst. U.S. Attorney Earl J. Silbert said this number was for a phone installed in Room 16 of the Executive Office building next door to the White House on Aug. 15, 1971. He said it was disconnected March 15, 1972.

Denell identified a long list of items taken in the search of Room 214 of the Watergate Hotel, including \$3,566.57, and various items of identification of some of the men arrested in the case.

Also expected to testify today is a former FBI agent who said he monitored 200 wiretapped telephone calls as a spy for President Nixon's re-election campaign.

Alfred C. Baldwin III, who served as Martha Mitchell's bodyguard before taking on his espionage role, is expected

to be the government's key witness against the two remaining defendants arrested in connection with the break-in and bugging at Democratic party headquarters last summer.

On trial are G. Gordon Liddy, former counsel to Nixon's campaign finance committee, and James W. McCord Jr., who was campaign security chief at the time of the break-in.

FIVE OTHER defendants have pleaded guilty and await sentencing.

In testimony Tuesday, college student Thomas Gregory said he had no qualms about

accepting pay from former White House consultant E. Howard Hunt for spying on Democrats. Hunt pleaded guilty to the conspiracy and wiretapping charges last week.

Defense lawyer Gerald Alch questioned Gregory at length, and said later he was trying to establish that Republicans found it necessary to spy on Democrats because of a fear of campaign violence.

Alch said he will try to prove that concern existed for the safety of Republican officials, including President Nixon, during the campaign. He

said McCord conferred with law-enforcement officials about this concern as part of his job as security chief.

BALDWIN' Stestimony follows detailed accounts Tuesday by police officers of how they surprised five men inside the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington's Watergate complex last June 17.

Frank Wells, a security guard at the Watergate, said he called police after he found door locks in a basement level taped open, removed the tape and later found them retaped.