

equipment and stashed it either out on a country road — those two country roads — except for some of the things which I tossed in the Potomac.

He didn't have the heart, however, to throw out the expensive items. The receiver and the walkie-talkies," he said, "were the most expensive items of equipment, and I knew that weather would destroy them very, very quickly and they'd be completely out of commission, and so I thought, 'Well, I'll hold these and see what happens.'"

But he carefully removed the serial numbers from the bugging equipment, he testified.

The once taciturn, now talkative McCord had even more interesting things to tell the grand jury, which we'll report in a subsequent column.

Conclusion this Anderson column, marked, from Fred Post 4/16, omitted from his column same day W. Post, sent you.

Merry-Go-Round SFChronicle APR 16 1973

New Watergate Break-In Revealed



Jack Anderson

THE WATERGATE "Mission: Impossible" team, which was arrested inside Democratic Party Headquarters on June 17, 1972, broke into the premises three weeks earlier during the Memorial Day weekend.

This previous espionage mission has been described to a federal grand jury by James McCord, President Nixon's erstwhile campaign security chief, who confessed he bugged Democratic official Spencer Oliver's telephone while others photographed party documents.

The Memorial Day break-in was staged by eight men, three more than were caught at gunpoint in early hours of June 17. Asked how many actually entered the Democratic lair, McCord told the secret panel: "Seven Cubans and me or I. I think that's correct."

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"AND DO YOU remember the different functions that were performed by any of the different people?" he was asked.

"My function . . ." explained McCord, was electronics, while Mr. (Bernard) Barker went through various and sundry files, and he and some of the others picked out certain material to be photographed . . .

"And Mr. (Frank) Sturgis and two or three of the others were generally the lookout men, so to speak . . . The other Cubans, generally, seemed to be supporting Mr. Barker in the photographic operation."

He was asked how long they stayed inside. "It seems to me," he answered "that we were in a couple of hours. It may have been a little less than that, about an hour and a half."

Going into more detail, McCord testified: "As best I recall, the others went in first, went through the front door. And I got a call, I think from (Howard) Hunt, as best I recall, by telephone from his office at the Watergate Hotel, which conveyed the message that, in so many words, that the men were inside and I should go ahead and join them.

"So I came up the backstairs from the basement, which were taped, and came up to the back door, and I think Frank Sturgis let me in the back door."

The prosecutors wanted to know how the other conspirators got in the front door. "Well," said McCord, "I wasn't there, but my understanding was that a locksmith opened the lock or otherwise they jimmied it."

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EARLIER, McCord told the grand jury he had purchased the bugging devices in Chicago.

After the June arrest, McCord got rid of most of the incriminating equipment.

The once taciturn, now talkative, McCord had even more interesting things to tell the grand jury, which we'll report in a subsequent column.