

Filed with chronologies

SF Examiner

13 May 1973

Watergate Day-by-Day

Compiled by Harry Johansen<sup>e</sup>

(Part I; Part II followed in issue  
of 2 August 1973, also filed with  
chronologies)

Part I covers 28may72 to 12may73

# Watergate

## Day-by-Day

Compiled by Harry Johannesen

Examiner Staff Writer

Here is a chronology of events in the Watergate affair:

1972

**May 28** — An attempted break-in at headquarters of the Democratic National Committee in the Watergate Hotel is reported to the Washington police.

**June 17** — Police arrest five men at 2 a.m. in sixth-floor offices of Democratic National Committee at Watergate. Bernard L. Barker, Eugene R. Martin, Frank A. Sturgis, James W. McCord and Virgilo R. Gonzales are booked for second degree burglary.

**June 19** — McCord is fired as chief security officer for the Committee for the Re-election of the President. White House presidential aide John W. Dean III starts an investigation of the incident.

**June 19** — Presidential Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler says "I am not going to comment from the White House on a second-rate burglary attempt."

**June 20** — Democratic National Committee Chairman Lawrence O'Brien files \$1 million damage suit against Committee for Re-election of the President. President Nixon's former Attorney General and now campaign manager John N. Mitchell, calls the suit "another example of sheer demagoguery."

**June 20** — Washington Post police reporter finds name of E. Howard Hunt in two address books in possession of accused Watergate burglars. Hunt traced to White House, where he was employed as a consultant, by reporter Robert Woodward.

**June 22** — President Nixon says "The White House has no involvement whatever in this particular incident."

**June 28** — Mitchell fires G. Gordon Liddy, an attorney for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, saying Liddy "elected not to respond" to questions by FBI agents investigating Watergate.

**July 1** — Mitchell resigns as Nixon's campaign manager, citing family reasons. He is succeeded by Clark MacGregor.

**July 14** — Hugh W. Sloan Jr., treasurer of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, resigns in protest of "some of the things (he was) asked to do."

**July 18** — Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein finds \$25,000 campaign contribution check from Kenneth Dahlberg in file of prosecutor looking into Watergate case in Florida. Reporter Robert Woodward locates Dahlberg, talks to him by phone and establishes first documented connection between Watergate and Republican campaign finances.

**August 25** — Former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans, now chief fund raiser for the Nixon campaign, is questioned in Miami about \$114,000 in campaign funds; the questioners seek to find out how the money wound up in possession of Bernard L. Barker.

**August 28** — Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst says Justice Department Watergate probe will be "most extensive, thorough and comprehensive . . . No credible, fair-minded person is going to be able to say that we white-washed or dragged our feet on it."

**August 29** — President Nixon: "I can say categorically that his (John Dean's) investigation indicates that no one in the White House staff, no one in this administration, presently employed, was involved in this bizarre incident."

**Sept. 1** — Mitchell: "I did not get to the question where I swore that I had no advance knowledge of the bugging incident. I'll swear to that now."

**Sept. 13** — The Republican Party, charging Democrats were using federal courts as "an instrument for creating political headlines," files \$2.5 million counter-suit against Lawrence O'Brien.

**Sept. 15** — Liddy, Hunt and the five Watergate burglary suspects are indicted by the federal grand jury in Washington.

**Sept. 19** — The Watergate Seven enter pleas of not guilty on eight counts each before Chief U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica.

**Sept. 20** — Two officials of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, Robert C. Mardian and Frederick LaRue, are reported to have destroyed some of the committee's financial records after the Watergate bugging incident.

**Sept. 29** — Mitchell is reported to have controlled a secret fund used to gather information about the Democrats. Mitchell denied it.

**Oct. 10** — Washington Post publishes story asserting that the FBI established that the Watergate incident stemmed "from a massive campaign of political spying and sabotage conducted on behalf of President Nixon's re-election . . ." The Post reports that Donald H. Segretti, a Los Angeles lawyer, recruited agents to sabotage the Democratic candidates. It is the most explosive disclosure yet and in the days that follow the Nixon administration calls it "guilt by association," "hypocrisy" and "character assassination."

**Oct. 11** — Dean, MacGregor, Mitchell and Stans refuse to appear before House Banking and Currency Committee headed by Rep. Wright Patman (D-Texas).

**Oct. 15** — Segretti is reported to have been hired by Dwight W. Chapin, President Nixon's appointments secretary, and paid by Nixon's personal lawyer, Herbert W. Kalmbach.

**Oct. 22** — Justice Department records, according to news reports, cite White House aide Jeb Stuart Magruder as having authorized expenditures for bugging operation at Watergate.

**Oct. 25** — Post reports, citing federal investigators, that H. R. Haldeman, the President's chief of staff, was one of the officials authorized to approve payments for a secret campaign fund for espionage and sabotage. Haldeman, who

—Continued on Page 6, Col. 1

—Continued from Page 5

hotly denies it, thus becomes the highest administration figure — up to that point — linked to the scandal.

**Oct. 28** — Judge Sirica falls ill; acting on advice of his physician, he delays Watergate trial until Jan. 8. It had been scheduled to start Nov. 15.

**Nov. 7** — President Nixon is overwhelmingly reelected.

**Dec. 8** — An airline crash in Chicago kills Mrs. E. Howard Hunt Jr., wife of the Watergate defendant. Days later \$10,000 in \$100 bills are recovered among her possessions at the crash site. The money is later reported to have come from funds paid to Hunt in exchange for his accepting a jail sentence in silence. Mrs. Hunt is said to be carrying the money to invest it in a motel as a means of providing a visible income for her husband.

1973

**Jan. 8** — Watergate trial begins.

**Jan. 12** — Hunt pleads guilty to all charges against him.

**Jan. 15** — Four more Watergate defendants plead guilty as Barker tells court he received funds by mail to finance Watergate bugging.



**Jan. 30** — Jury deliberates only 90 minutes to reach verdict finding two remaining Watergate defendants — Liddy and McCord — guilty on all eight counts of conspiracy, second degree burglary and wiretapping.

**Feb. 2** — Judge Sirica says Watergate trial failed to bring out all the facts of the case and urges government to resume investigation.

**Feb. 7** — Senate by 77-0 vote approves select committee headed by Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-North Carolina) to investigate Watergate case; federal prosecutor Earl J. Silbert says all seven Watergate defendants will be summoned by grand jury.

**Feb. 28** — Acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray III says he reluctantly made his agency's files on Watergate available to the White House.

**March 8** — Gray says Dean was present when FBI agents questioned White House employees during Watergate investigation.

**March 15** — President Nixon, invoking executive privilege, refuses to allow Dean to testify before Senate Judiciary Committee.

**March 23** — McCord discloses that others involved in Watergate bugging had escaped and says he and other defendants were "under pressure to plead guilty and remain silent." Liddy is sentenced to serve from 6½ to 20 years in prison. Sentencing for McCord is postponed, and Hunt is sentenced "provisionally" to 40 years.

**March 24** — McCord tells Senate investigators Dean and Magruder knew in advance about plans to bug Watergate.

**March 30** — President Nixon orders all members of his White House staff to testify if any are called by the grand jury.

**April 4** — Liddy, refusing to answer 30 questions about Watergate, is cited for contempt by Judge Sirica and has an additional 18 months added to his sentence.

**April 17** — President Nixon: "On March 21, as a result of serious charges which came to my attention . . . I began intensive new inquiries into this whole matter . . . If any person in the executive branch of the government is indicted by the grand jury, my policy will be to immediately suspend him." White House Press Secretary Ziegler: "The President's statement today is the operative statement . . . (previous statements) are inoperative."

**April 19** — Dean says he will not be made a White House "scapegoat" for Watergate; Mitchell gets a subpoena to appear before the grand jury.

**April 19** — Kliendienst disqualifies himself from Watergate investigation, citing his friendship and close association with some of those under investigation.

**April 20** — Mitchell goes before the grand jury, tells press he had sat in on discussions of proposed bugging operations but had always vetoed such ideas involving unlawful activities.

**April 27** — Gray admits he destroyed, at urging of Dean and John D. Ehrlichman, Nixon's chief domestic ad-

viser, some Watergate files taken from Hunt's safe in the White House. He resigns as acting FBI director and is quickly replaced by William Ruckelshaus, the environmental protection administrator. Magruder also resigns as assistant to the secretary of commerce.

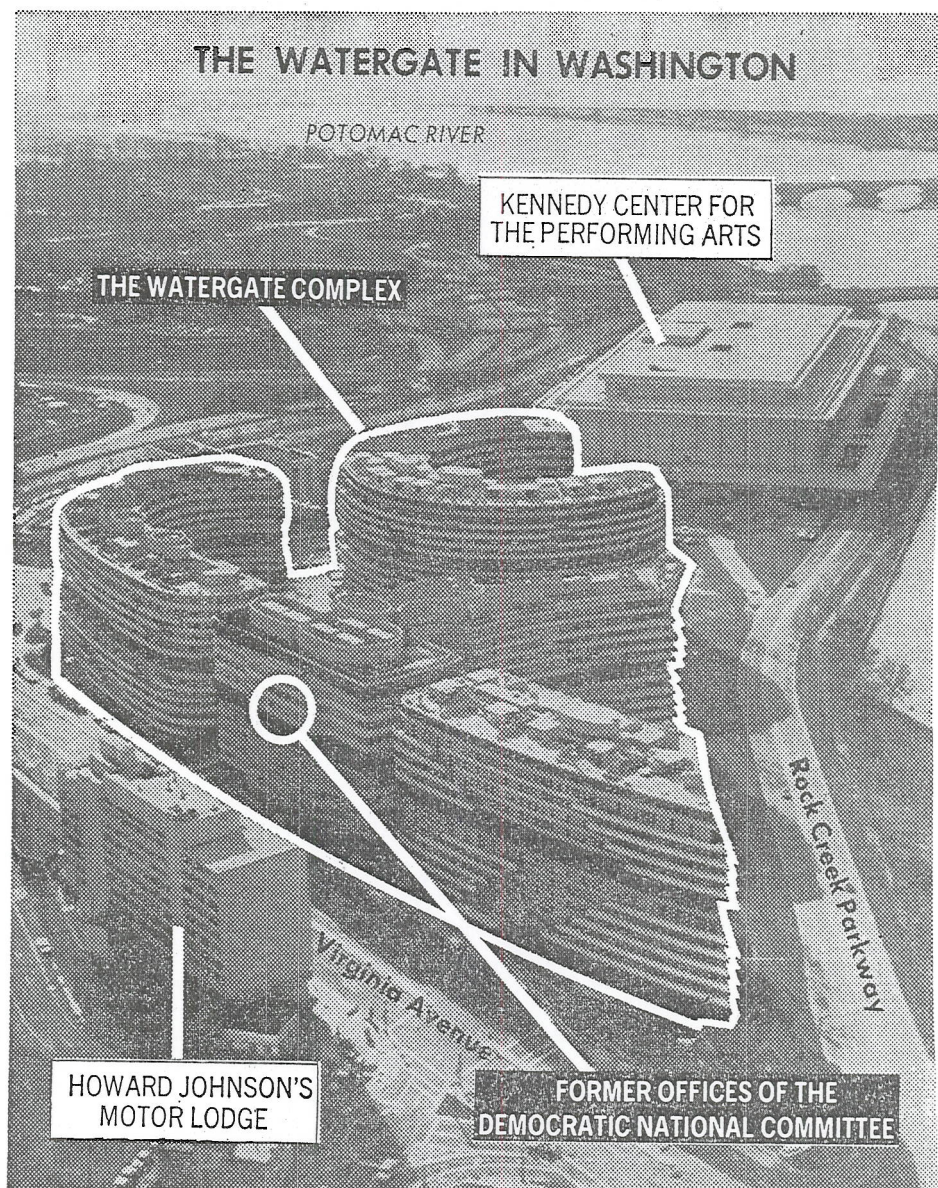
**April 27** — The judge in the Pentagon Papers trial in Los Angeles releases information that Hunt and Liddy had burglarized the offices of defendant Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

**April 30** — White House announces resignations of top presidential aides Haldeman and Ehrlichman, and Attorney General Kliendienst. Dean is fired by the President.

**April 30** — President Nixon nominates HEW Secretary Elliot L. Richardson as attorney general, says he accepts full responsibility, praises Haldeman and Ehrlichman as fine public servants, asks public support and authorizes Richardson to appoint a special prosecutor.

**May 1** — The Pentagon papers trial judge releases further information—that Ehrlichman had admitted in an FBI interview he had hired Liddy and Hunt to investigate the case.





The New York Times/United Press International

**May 3** — Haldeman and Ehrlichman submit to questioning by federal prosecutors and the grand jury.

**May 4** — President Nixon names Gen. Alexander Haig Jr. to replace Haldeman as chief of staff in the White House.

**May 4** — Segretti is indicted by the grand jury as the author of a smear letter to discredit Sen. Edmund Muskie in the Florida Democratic primary.

**May 4** — Hunt tells the grand jury he was authorized by his White House employers to burglarize the offices of Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

**May 4** — New reports say Mitchell's wife Martha testifies in a deposition proceeding she was "half crucified" by the White House when she publicly demanded that her husband quit President Nixon's campaign.

**May 6** — Krogh admits responsibility for the Ellsberg burglary, saying he had the job done as the man placed in charge of Pentagon Papers investigation by Ehrlichman.

**May 6** — Newsweek and Time magazines say that Dean will testify that Nixon was aware of, and approved, the Watergate coverup as early as last September and that according to Ehrlichman, Nixon promised executive clemency to Hunt.

**May 7** — White House hotly denies that Nixon was involved in the coverup or that he promised clemency to anyone.

**May 7** — Sources close to Watergate case say Marine Corps Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr. authorized the use of CIA resources in the burglary of the offices of Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

**May 7** — New disclosures come at the Pentagon papers trial: Hunt has told a grand jury that former White House special counsel Charles Colson ordered him to falsify State Department documents. The phony documents were to show that President Kennedy's administration had ordered the assassination of South Vietnam President Diem.

**May 7** — The Washington Post wins the 57th annual Pulitzer Prize for distinguished public service in journalism for its investigative reporting of Watergate.

**May 9** — Krogh resigns as No. 2 man in the Department of Transportation, becoming the tenth Nixon Administration official to quit under pressure of Watergate.

**May 9** — Vice President Agnew lashes the news media

voted against holding hearings on the case.

**Oct. 5**—News articles reported that Alfred C. Baldwin 3d, a former F.B.I. agent, delivered sets of eavesdropping logs to the re-election panel before the June 17 incident.

**Oct. 6**—It was reported that Mr. Baldwin had sent memos of wiretapping activities to William E. Timmons, assistant to the President for congressional relations, Robert C. Odle Jr., director of administration for the re-election committee and a former White House aide, and J. Glenn Sedam Jr., general counsel of the committee.

**Oct. 10**—News articles reported on a massive campaign of sabotage and intelligence directed by officials of the White House and the re-election committee. The Post said Donald H. Segretti, a former Treasury Department lawyer, recruited agents to sabotage the Democratic campaign. Among incidents of sabotage reported was that of a letter to The Manchester Union Leader accusing Senator Edmund S. Muskie of laughing at a description of Americans of French-Canadian descent as "Canucks." The reports said that Ken W. Clawson, deputy director of White House communications, said he had written the letter.

**Oct. 13**—Senator Edward M. Kennedy, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Administrative Practices, ordered a "preliminary inquiry" into the Watergate case.

**Oct. 15**—News articles said that Mr. Segretti was hired by Waight L. Chapin, Mr. Nixon's appointments secretary, and that Mr. Segretti was paid by the President's personal lawyer, Herbert W. Kalmbach. It was reported that Mr. Segretti had called Mr. Chapin "a person I reported to in Washington."

**Oct. 18**—Mr. Segretti made calls to Hunt, Mr. Chapin and the White House, news reports said.

**Oct. 19**—It was reported that Mr. Segretti tried to join the McGovern campaign.

**Oct. 22**—Justice Department files showed that Jeb Stuart Magruder, a re-election committee official, had authorized the expenditures for the Watergate bugging, news reports said.

**Oct. 25**—News stories, citing Federal investigators, said that H. R. Haldeman, the President's chief of staff, was one of the officials authorized to approve payments from a secret campaign fund for espionage and sabotage.

**Oct. 26**—Clark MacGregor acknowledged that officials of the re-election group had controlled a special cash fund, but denied that the fund was used to sabotage the Democrat's campaign. He named Mr. Magruder, Mr. Stans, Liddy and Herbert L. Porter as the men who controlled the fund.

**Oct. 28**—It was reported that Senator Edward Kennedy



had been subpoenaing documents for his subcommittee's investigation.

Oct. 29—There were news reports that Mr. Chapin had admitted to F.B.I. agents that he hire Mr. Segretti.

Nov. 1—Barker was convicted of falsely nortarizing a signature on a \$25,000 check that had gone through the re-election group. The signature was that of Kenneth H. Dahlberg, chairman of the Minnesota Nixon Re-election Committee.

### 1973

Jan. 8—Criminal trial opened.

Jan. 10—Hunt pleaded guilty.

Jan. 11—Senator Sam Ervin agreed to head a Senate investigation of the Watergate case.

Jan. 15—Barker, Sturgis M. Martinez and Gonzalez plead guilty.

Jan. 30—Liddy and McCord were convicted of all charges.

Feb. 7—The Senate voted to set up a committee to investigate the Watergate case.

March 23—Judge Sirica disclosed a letter from McCord charging that higher-ups were involved, that there was perjury in the trial and that the defendants were pressured to plead guilty. Judge Sirica postponed sentencing for McCord, sentenced Liddy to six years, eight months, to 20 years.

March 24—McCord told Senate investigators that White House counsel John W. Dean 3d and Mr. Magruder knew about the bugging in advance.

April 3—Liddy was sentenced to 8 to 18 months for

for its reporting of the Watergate affair. He compares reporting to McCarthyism and says the press has "tr passed the bounds of propriety."

May 9 — The White House moves to recover Waterg documents taken from the White House by ousted coun Dean, who has sent the key for a safe deposit box in wh he placed the papers to Federal Judge Sirica.

May 9 — President Nixon, addressing a Republic audience at a fund-raiser: "I didn't get where I am du ing issues . . . I can assure you that we will get to bottom of this deplorable incident . . . An individual, ex a government official — is innocent until proven guilty."

May 10—A New York grand jury indicts Mitchell a Stans. They are accused of having tried to obstruct an S investigation in exchange for a secret \$200,000 cash con tribution to the Nixon campaign by financier Vesco. The dictment, charging conspiracy, also names Vesco and H ry L. Sears, a prominent New Jersey Republican who testified he delivered the Vesco contribution to Stans.

May 10 — President Nixon names CIA director Jam R. Schlesinger as his new secretary of defense and forr Treasury Secretary John Connally as part-time unp: White House adviser on both domestic and foreign policy

May 10 — Dean says he has learned from friends the is "a concerted effort to get me." He does not name any he thinks is out to gef him but says there is "an ongoi effort to limit or prevent" his testimony.

May 11 — U.S. District Judge Matthew Byrne in I Angeles dismisses all charges against Daniel Ellsberg a Anthony Russo, co-defendants against charges of espic age, theft and conspiracy in the Pentagon Papers tri The judge based his action on White House involvement the burglary of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office.

May 11 — Transcript of testimony made under oath James W. McCord on April 30 and May 1 reveals that t convicted Watergate conspirator said he would never ha participated in the break-in without assurances that Jo Mitchell, then attorney general, had approved it.

May 12 — Gray is reported to have told Senate inves gators that he told President Nixon by telephone last Ji that White House aides were hindering his probe of t Watergate affair.



MARTHA MITCHELL



RICHARD KLEINDIENST