

Wiretappers sought
Cuba Tie to Demos

Another Burglar Testifies

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON—
Watergate conspirator
Bernard Barker told Sen-
ate investigators today he
believed the wiretapping
and burglary of Demo-
cratic headquarters was
a "matter of national se-
curity."

He said he thought the spy
squad of which he was a
member, was looking for ev-
idence of Cuban contribu-
tions to the campaigns of
Sen. George McGovern and
"possibly" Sen. Edward
Kennedy, Barker testified
today.

Barker said he and three
Cuban-Americans who were
arrested in the June 17 Wat-
ergate raid believed they
would later receive help for
"Cuban liberation" from
high administration offi-
cials.

Barker, brought from jail
and testifying under immu-
nity from prosecution, admit-
ted that he had helped in the
1971 break-in at the offices
of Pentagon Papers defend-
ant Daniel Ellsberg.

Hired by Hunt

He said he was recruited
for that and later operations
by E. Howard Hunt, who
subsequently was convicted
with Barker and others in
the Watergate case.

When Hunt recruited him
for the Ellsberg break-in,
Barker said:

"It was explained to me
that this was a matter of na-
tional security."

At that time Hunt was em-
ployed by the White House
to investigate news leaks of
classified information.

Earlier in the day mem-
bers of the Senate Water-

gate Committee charged
there were discrepancies be-
tween testimony of convict-
ed conspirator James W.
McCord Jr. and his former
lawyer, and one senator pro-
posed their statements be
examined for possible perju-
ry.

Major Points

The lawyer, Gerald Alch
of Boston, a member of F.
Lee Bailey's firm, was ques-
tioned all morning about his
denials of two parts of
McCord's testimony earlier
during the nationally telev-
ised hearings:

- That Alch suggested
that McCord, a 19-year CIA
veteran, build as his defense
the CIA was involved in the
June 17 bugging and
break-in at the Democratic
offices at the Watergate
complex.

- That Alch brought pres-
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sure on McCord to accept an
offer of executive clemency.

The morning questioning
of Alch took 2½ hours dur-
ing his second day on the
stand.

Urges Lie Tests

Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr.
(R-Tenn.), asked Alch how
he could reconcile the "dis-
crepancies" between his tes-
timony and McCord's.

Alch suggested that he,
McCord and his current law-
yer, Bernard Fensterwald,
take lie detector tests.

"I call them 20th Century
witchcraft," said Sen. Sam
J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.), the
committee chairman, add-
ing he did not put much
stock in them.

Baker sharply disagreed
and proposed that the com-
mittee staff arrange the
tests if all were agreeable.

Speaking with reporters
during a lunch recess in the
hearings, Fensterwald said
he and McCord would be
willing to take lie detector



BERNARD BARKER
"Matter of security"

—UPI Photo

test "only if all the witness-
es are going to be given
the test."

McCord Agrees

McCord first said his posi-
tion was the same. But mo-
ments later he said, "I'll do
whatever the committee
asks for."

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye
(D-Hawaii), said the com-

mittee also should ask the
Justice Department to pro-
vide any information collect-
ed which might show any
connection, "or criminal
conspiracy," between the
Democratic National Com-
mittee, or such Democratic
presidential hopefuls as Ed-
mund Muskie and McGovern
and any groups planning to
carry out violence.

Ervin ordered the request
made, saying the informa-
tion was needed to set the
record straight.

He said there "are some
people in Washington" who
see "conspiracy, subver-
sives, demonstrators" and
"ghosts under every bed and
under every rosebush."

"Unfortunately some of
them get in security posi-
tions," Ervin said.

Perjury Charge

Under questioning by Sen.
Edward J. Gurney (R-Fla.)
Alch raised the possibility
that Fensterwald wrote the
March 19 letter from
McCord to Chief U.S. Dis-
trict Judge John J. Sirica.

In the letter McCord al-
leged that there had been
perjury during the January
trial and political pressure
was brought on the Water-
gate defendants to keep
quiet. None of the defend-
ants, including McCord, tes-
tified.

Alch said that when he
called Fensterwald to ask
why he (Alch) was men-
tioned in a memo as having
suggested that CIA records
could be altered, Fenster-
wald said that the memo
"was a bomb like the one we
dropped on you back before
Judge Sirica."

Gurney asked if Alch had
made the assumption that
Fensterwald and McCord
had written the letter togeth-
er.

"At that point, I had,"
Alch said.

'Get Nixon'

Alch testified yesterday
that Fensterwald told him
by telephone recently:

"We are going to get the
President of the United
States."

Fensterwald did not di-
rectly reply to that charge
in his three-page statement
today, but said:

"All I can say in rebuttal
is that Mr. McCord happens
to want me as his lawyer
and does not want Mr.
Alch."

The committee decided
before the start of the hear-
ings not to permit McCord
and Fensterwald to return to
the witness stand at this
time, but invited them to
make sworn written state-
ments.

At the same time, the
committee announced it
would add three more days
of hearings to its previously
announced schedule, appar-
ently because it has been
sidetracked this week from
its probe into the bugging of
Democratic Party headquar-
ters last spring and alleged
related acts of political espi-
onage.

The extra hearings will be
June 5, 6 and 7, after Con-
gress returns from a Memo-
rial Day recess.