

Watergate Panel Begins an Inquiry Into

NYTimes BELLINO ACCUSED OF SPYING IN 1960

Bush Made Allegations—
Talmadge, Gurney and
Inouye to Take Case

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 3 —
the Senate Watergate commit-
tee began an investigation to-
day of charges against its chief
investigator, Carmine S. Bel-
lino.

At an executive session late
yesterday, Senator Sam J. Er-
vin Jr., the committee chair-
man, named two Democrats,
Senators Herman E. Talmadge
of Georgia and Daniel K. Inouye
of Hawaii, and a republican,
Senator Edward J. Gurney of
Florida, to look into accusa-
tions against Mr. Bellino made
by George Bush, the Republi-
can national chairman.

Last week Mr. Bush charged
that Mr. Bellino headed an es-
pionage operation in the 1960
Presidential campaign of John
F. Kennedy that may have in-
cluded the use of electronic
surveillance.

Rufus L. Edmisten, the
Watergate committee's deputy
counsel, said today that the
Senators had "already begun"
to look into the case.

'Serious Violations'

He said that the subcommit-
tee members would examine
the evidence presented by Mr.
Bush and then talk with Mr.
Bellino. No public interrogation
is being considered now, he
added.

Mr. Edmisten conceded that
among other things the inquiry
was being undertaken to dem-
onstrate the "balance" and
"nonpartisan" approach of the
committee, which is primarily
investigating 1972 Republican
campaign activities.

Last week Mr. Bush called
upon the Watergate committee
to conduct an investigation im-
mediately in the interest of
"fairness" and to show that
"some balance" prevailed. He
said that "serious violations of
the public trust have gone on
prior to Watergate [and] it is
a gross distortion to micro-
scopically analyze one cam-
paign and totally ignore what
others have done in other cam-
paigns."

Mr. Bush, a former Represen-
tative from Texas and Amba-
sador to the United Nations,
based his charges principally on
three affidavits.

In one affidavit, John W.



Associated Press

Carmine S. Bellino

Leon, a private investigator
who died July 13, said that he
had overheard a conversation
between two other investiga-
tors that led him to believe
Richard M. Nixon's office space
or telephone had been bugged
in the 1960 campaign.

In another affidavit, Edward
M. Jones, the man accused of
the bugging, swore that he had
never conducted electronic sur-
veillance of any type during
that campaign.

Mr. Bush's third affidavit,
from Joseph Shimon, a retired
investigator and one-time cap-
tain of the Metropolitan Police
Force in Washington, said that
Oliver W. Angelone, another
investigator, had asked him,
assertedly on Mr. Bellino's in-
structions, to help in bugging
the hotel quarters of unidenti-
fied Republicans here in 1960.

Mr. Shimon's sworn state-
ment said he had immediately
rejected the request. But Mr.
Angelone insisted that the re-
quest had never been made.

"It's absolutely unbelievable,"
Mr. Angelone said. "I don't
know why Simon would be say-
ing this. It's absolutely untrue."

'Malicious Lies'

Mr. Bush has said that he
could not vouch for the truth
of the charges, but would like
to see a further investigation
conducted. He said the infor-
mation had been presented to
him by Jerris Leonard, a for-
mer Justice Department official
in the Nixon Administration.

Mr. Bellino, a longtime Con-
gressional investigator and
Kennedy family friend, has de-
nounced the charges as "false
and malicious lies."

The 67-year-old accountant
and detective, who has been
examining 1972 Republican
campaign finances for the
Watergate committee, said that
the accusations were intended
to distract him from his work.

After Mr. Bush made his
charges, 21 Republican Sena-
tors asked that Mr. Bellino be
suspended from the committee
staff and investigated. How-
ever, Mr. Bellino is continuing
in his post while the subcom-
mittee looks into the matter.

Charges Against Its Chief Investigator

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