

See also WXP [AP] 9 Sep 73
WXP [AP] 14 Sep 73

**Sturgis Indicted
For Auto Smuggling**

MIAMI Fla. Aug. 21 (AP)—A federal grand jury has indicted convicted Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis and other persons on charges of conspiring to run stolen cars into Mexico.

Sturgis is in the federal prison at Danbury, Conn., under a 40-year provisional sentence for his part in the break-in at the Democratic National headquarters in June, 1972.

He is accused in the indictment returned here Monday of conspiring in 1968 and 1969 to smuggle stolen cars into Mexico.

Also indicted were Jerry Buchanan, Max Gonzalez, John Lertieri, Frank Leslie Merritt and Charles Spinella, all of south Florida.

Mrs. Sturgis, in a statement issued by her Miami lawyer, Ellis Rubin, said the timing of the indictment against her husband "cannot be by accident." Rubin suggested the indictment might be a form of pressure by prosecutors seeking to force Sturgis to talk about the Watergate affair.

1968 + 1969

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