

Watergate Lectures Forbidden

By Timothy S. Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

Chief U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica yesterday ordered Watergate figures James W. McCord and Jeb Stuart Magruder not to give lectures or make public appearances, saying he "did not think it was fair for (them) to profit by their wrongdoing."

In denying the requests, that they be allowed to give speeches, Sirica also told them that such talks might have an adverse effect on any future trials growing out of the Watergate scandal.

McCord was convicted earlier this year on charges growing out of the June 17, 1972, break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters and Magruder pleaded guilty this summer to participating in the cover-up of the involvement of other persons with planning of the burglary. Both men await sentencing by Sirica.

A request by McCord to make speeches was denied last week by Judge Sirica, but the judge scheduled yesterday's hearing after being told in a letter by Magruder that he also wanted to make speeches.

In his letter, released by the judge yesterday, Magruder said, "The only reason I considered any speaking en-

SEP 6 1973



United Press International

Jeb Stuart Magruder, left, his attorney, James J. Bierbower, and James W. McCord, right, on way to court.

agements was because I now find myself in financial difficulty."

McCord's attorney, Bernard Fensterwald, on the other hand said that many of his clients' speeches were made for no fee whatsoever, and that many of the pending speech dates were in that same category.

Fensterwald suggested several possible restrictions

short of a total ban on speeches by McCord, all of which were denied by Sirica.

Representatives for Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox also opposed both requests for permission to give lectures, producing letters from Cox to both Magruder and McCord saying such talks would be "very improper."

"It is difficult to see how

Mr. Magruder could possibly lecture about questions concerning conduct in the executive branch, or about morality and ethical standards in politics or government, without his observations being regarded as a lecture upon the Watergate affair," Cox wrote to Magruder's attorney, James J. Bierbower.

Sirica also pointed to that

problem yesterday, saying he couldn't imagine anyone attending a speech by either of the two men and the Watergate issue not being discussed.

"We have to think ahead... think of the constitutional right of people who might be indicted. I don't see how we can get a fair trial if this (speech-making) keeps up," Sirica said.