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**6 Get Watergate Terms;
Hunt Given 2½ to 8 Years**

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 9 —

E. Howard Hunt Jr., the former spy who was hired by the White House to carry out clandestine operations, was sentenced today to two and a half to eight years in prison and fined \$10,000 for his role in planning the Watergate break-in.

The five men who carried out the plan—only to be caught and arrested on the spot—were sentenced by Federal Judge John J. Sirica to lesser terms.

James W. McCord Jr., the former security coordinator for the Republican National Committee and the Committee for the Re-election of the President, was sentenced to a one-to-five-year term.

Frank A. Sturgis, Eugenio R. Martinez and Virgilio R. Gonzalez received terms of one to four years.

Bernard L. Barker, a Florida businessman who hired the three others, got 18 months to six years.

Sturgis, Martinez and Gonzalez, having already spent nearly a year in jail pending the outcome of the case, will be eligible for parole before Christmas.

The six men were, with G. Gordon Liddy, the original Watergate defendants, the first to be accused in the crime that shocked the country and jolted the Government.

They could each have been imprisoned for decades. Liddy, in fact, has already been sentenced to a maximum of 20 years, in part because of his refusal to cooperate with the prosecution. Hunt could have got 50 years, by Judge Sirica's count, and the others, between 60 and 65.

But they were also underlings, in the Watergate break-in itself and even more so in the cover-up that followed. And so, with a minimum of emotion and fuss, Judge Sirica sentenced them accordingly.

"I've given you the lowest minimum I thought is justified under the circumstances of this

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case," he said simply, after announcing the sentence of one-to-four years he was imposing on Martinez, Sturgis and Gonzales.

Judge Sirica—who has been dubbed "Maximum John" by some local lawyers, as a result of what they consider his tough sentencing policy—did not even give that much of an explanation in imposing his penalties on the other defendants.

But if the judge was low-keyed and unemotional, many of the others in his crowded courtroom were not.

The proceeding started off with a long plea for mercy by Daniel F. Schultz, lawyer for the four Floridians. He spoke of each of his clients in turn, describing Sturgis, for instance, as "that type of man representing the person who has historically made this country good."

Gonzales, he told the court, is "one of the nicest, most pleasant" persons one could meet. Martinez, the lawyer said, is the "victim of a cruel fraud." And Barker, he continued, has been turned by the Watergate conspiracy from a man who risked his life for his country to "the pathetic bumbling burglar."

Mr. Schultz repeated his contention that the four believed they were involved in a legitimate national security operation rather than in a crime, saying that his clients were "men convicted of a crime who are not criminals." Then, noting that the four had already

been in jail for nearly a year, he made the plea that set the tune for the rest of the proceedings:

"How much more punishment do you mete out to the soldiers when the architects of the plan, the generals, haven't spent a day in jail and may never do so?"

"How much longer," he asked, "is this Government—whether the special prosecutor or this court—going to vent its anger and its frustrations against these four little men from Miami?"

Pleas by the Defendants

Martinez followed his lawyer to the podium with his own statement, telling Judge Sirica, in his heavily accented voice, that he was "confused," unsure of what was going on, unsure what had happened to him.

Next came Barker, who said he had recruited the three men, who had long been involved in activities against Cuban Premier Fidel Castro, for patriotic rather than criminal reasons.

And then came the prosecution. The four men, according to Philip Locovara, of the special Watergate prosecution force, had acted out of "misguided loyalty." And, he said, "their position in this enterprise was at the bottom of this totem pole."

McCord also spoke for himself.

"My participation in Watergate was in error and wrong," he said. "I offer no excuse."

He joined the enterprise, he said, because "I believed then as I believe now" that the President authorized it.

Hunt let his lawyer, Sidney Sachs, speak for him. As Mr. Sachs told it, Hunt, like the others, committed his offenses for "patriotic reasons."

Hunt and the four Floridians all pleaded guilty to the charges against them—charges ranging from burglary to conspiracy. McCord, like Liddy, went to trial and was convicted on Jan. 30.

Letter Brings Change

For months after their arrest the defendants kept silent, refusing to tell the story behind the break-in. But on March 23, the situation changed.

On that day Judge Sirica read to those in his courtroom here a letter he had just received from McCord in which McCord said that "others" had escaped capture and that witnesses had perjured themselves at his and Liddy's trial.

Judge Sirica sentenced Liddy that day, too, to a term of from six years and eight months to 20 years. He sentenced the five who had pleaded guilty to very long "provisional" terms, telling them that he would take into account, at the final sentencing day, any cooperation they gave to the authorities investigating the Watergate affair.

"I am making no promise of leniency," he said then, "but the sentence I will impose will depend primarily on whether or not you cooperate" with the Senate Watergate committee. He also recommended cooperation with the grand jury.

The sentences announced today indicated he was satisfied with their cooperation.



United Press International

James W. McCord Jr., right, leaves court in Washington with lawyer, Bernard Fensterwald, after receiving a sentence of one to five years in the Watergate case. Below are others, still in jail, and their sentences.



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E. Howard Hunt Jr.
2½ to 8 yrs., \$10,000



Associated Press

Frank A. Sturgis
1 to 4 years



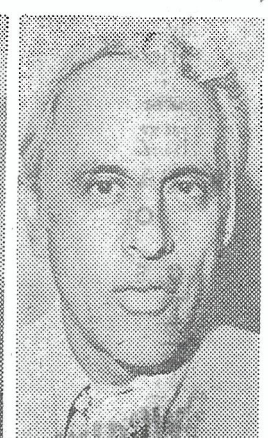
Associated Press

Bernard L. Barker
1½ to 6 years



United Press International

Virgilio R. Gonzalez
1 to 4 years



Associated Press

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1 to 4 years