

Barker Said to Link Plumbers To Bugging of Soviet Embassy

MIAMI, Jan. (AP)—Bernard L. Barker, the convicted Watergate conspirator, is quoted in today's editions of The Miami Herald as saying the White House plumbers intercepted and taped radio communications of the Soviet Embassy proving that the Soviets "had access to the Pentagon papers."

In the article, Mr. Barker is quoted as saying yesterday that the former White House aide E. Howard Hunt told him that the Soviet Embassy had been bugged and tapes had revealed that the Russians had some of the Pentagon papers.

The newspaper said that Mr. Barker would not say if he heard the alleged tapes, but said, "I have no doubt the tapes of the bugs exist."

In San Clemente, Calif., a White House staff member said the White House had no comment on The Herald article.

The Herald said Mr. Barker told it he had decided to parti-

cipate in the 1971 burglary of the offices of Dr. Daniel J. Ellsberg's former psychiatrist because:

"When Hunt told me they had taped conversations of the Soviet Embassy and that the tapes proved the Soviets were in the process of obtaining the national secrets, I decided the case involved national security and agreed to cooperate.

"I considered that the handing out of the national secrets was a betrayal of this country. I thought that man Ellsberg was a traitor and I decided that I would serve my country by consenting to do the work aske of me."

The Herald said it had interviewed Mr. Barker in a doctor's office where he received treatment last week after being released from a Federal prison farm. Mr. Barker was released from Federal custody while his appeal of his Watergate conviction is being heard in the courts.