

The Man Nixon Forgot

Washington

Bart Porter and President Nixon had different notions of their relationship, according to the edited transcripts of Mr. Nixon's Watergate conversations.

Herbert L. (Bart) Porter, former scheduling director for the Committee to Re-Elect the President, boasted in the Senate Watergate hearings last summer that he had known Mr. Nixon longer than anyone involved in the hearings.

"I much doubt that, Mr. Porter," Senator Howard H. Baker Jr. (Rep-Tenn.) replied.

Porter, then 32, testified that he met Mr. Nixon in 1948 at the age of eight, and that the Porter and Nixon families knew each other.

According to the transcript, former White House Counsel John W. Dean III brought up Porter's name in his conversation with Mr. Nixon on March 21, 1973.

"Who is Porter . . .?" Mr. Nixon asked.

"He is one of Magruder's deputies," Dean answered, referring to deputy campaign director Jeb Magru-



HERBERT L. PORTER
'Who is Porter . . .?'

der.

"Where is he now, in jail?" Mr. Nixon asked.

"No, he's in business somewhere, and he will probably be indicted," John Ehrlichman said.

He added that Porter probably would be indicted for perjury, "a little fish who got caught in the net."

"Poor son of a bitch," Mr. Nixon said.

Porter pleaded guilty to one count of lying to Watergate investigators and now is serving 30 days in prison. As he walked out of the courthouse after sentencing, reporters asked if he had heard from Mr. Nixon.

"No," he said.

United Press