

Watergate Jail Terms

Washington

U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica, as he has for several major Watergate figures, yesterday erased the remaining sentences of the four men who bugged Democratic party headquarters three years ago.

All four men — Miamians Bernard L. Barker, Frank A. Sturgis, Eugenio R. Martinez and Vigilio F. Gonza-

lez — have served about 13 months in prison after pleading guilty of conspiracy, burglary, bugging and wiretapping for the June 17, 1972, Watergate raid.

Sirica's brief order reduced their sentences to time already served.

It means that Barker will not have to return to prison for the rest of his minimum 18-month sentence and that

remaining probation will be wiped out for the others, who were paroled in March last year.

None of the four men — collectively known as "The Cubans" and sometimes as the "forgotten men of Watergate" — was present when the order came down.

Sirica, standing in shirt-sleeves in his chambers, simply handed copies to

their lawyer and a representative of the Watergate prosecutor's office.

Earlier this year, Sirica similarly reduced sentences to time served for a number of major Nixon administration and campaign officials, including John W. Dean III, Jeb Stuart Magruder and Herbert W. Kalmbach.

He did the same May 29 for James W. McCord Jr., the Nixon campaign security chief who was arrested along with the Cubans at the Watergate.

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