

# Watergate raid

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statement read (emphasis added):  
The allegations of Tachwood are completely false as far as the FBI is concerned. The charges were publicly stated by Tackwood himself on Oct. 10, 1971, in the office of the Los Angeles district attorney with a Los Angeles Times reporter present."

It is necessary to identify that reporter as Jerry Cohen, who was trusted by two other reporters to secret press conferences with Tackwood and then staged a police raid. He was relieved in the story by the Times which last reported that he was on extended leave (absence and was not available.) Tackwood's allegations are similar to the operation planned by the characters arrested in the Watergate affair - the location differs.

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"When the convention was moved to Miami, a whole new group of street people would have to set the milieu for confrontations," says Mae Brussel, self-styled conspiracy investigator. Some persons could be imported. Local cities would be better. The radical, optional, well-trained, constantly-evoked Cuban exile community could be worked up sufficiently . . ."

If there was a conspiracy to induce a state of emergency at the Republican convention in Miami, it failed when the organizers were arrested at Watergate. But, Mac adds, "the significance of the Watergate affair is that every element necessary for a political coup d'etat in the United States was assembled at the time of their arrest."

"The team of men represented at the convention went all the way from the White House with its Emergency Contingency Unit, walkie-talkies and private radio frequency, to the paid street provocateurs and troops who would execute emergencies."

The Watergate raid of June 17 was covered when an obviously unimpaired security guard at the building and a piece of tape holding open door were found.

The men arrested at the scene were James McCord, Bernard Baker, Frank Sturgis, Eugenio Martinez, and Virgilio Gonzalez, Howard Hunt and George deLoach were charged later. All seven had connections if not experience, and had worked with the Cuban "exiles" who mounted the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion on the Caribbean coast in 1961.

James McCord had served in both the FBI and the CIA, and also served with a 16-man unit attached to the White House and specializing in emergencies, radicals and contingency plans in event of war. He was chief of security for "Fairfax Highway Research Corporation", a CIA outfit in Langley, Virginia from 1951 to 1970, and was a special security co-ordinator for the committee to Re-Elect Richard Nixon until arrested.

Howard, Hunt worked in the CIA for 21 years, and later shared offices with Robert Bennet and Douglas Caddy,

co-founders of the radical right-wing Young Americans for Freedom (YAF). Caddy has been found in contempt of court for refusing to answer a series of grand jury questions about the raid.

Hunt originally set up the Watergate team in 1971, but at that time his only task was to prevent leaks from the White House to newspapers, aided by George Liddy. Late last year, the two turned their attentions to the gathering of intelligence for use against the Democrats in this year's campaign.

McCord joined the Committee for the Re-election of the President in October 1971, followed by Liddy in December. Hunt then recruited Barker, who brought with him the team of Martinez, Sturgis and Gonzales. The Watergate team was complete.

The operation was evidently financed (at least superficially) by the Committee for the Re-election of the President, which paid Barker \$114,000 in five cheques drawn on a Mexican bank to preserve their anonymity.

It is the payments made to the CRP, the sources of the money, and the date on which the CRP received the funds which has dictated most of the space in mass media reports on the Watergate raid.

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Four days after the raid, Martha Mitchell, wife of the former Attorney General who at that time headed Nixon's re-election committee, called UPI reporter Helen Thomas by phone from Newport, California.

"I am a political prisoner," she said. "I know dirty things, I saw dirty things and I gave John an ultimatum I would leave him if he didn't get out. I am not going to stand for all those dirty tricks that go on."

Martha told Thomas that she had been assaulted by guards assigned to her by the re-election committee. "(They) threw me down on the bed - five men did it - and stuck a needle in my behind."

Ms. Mitchell may be able to provide further information in a book she has promised to write about the Watergate affair and her part in it.

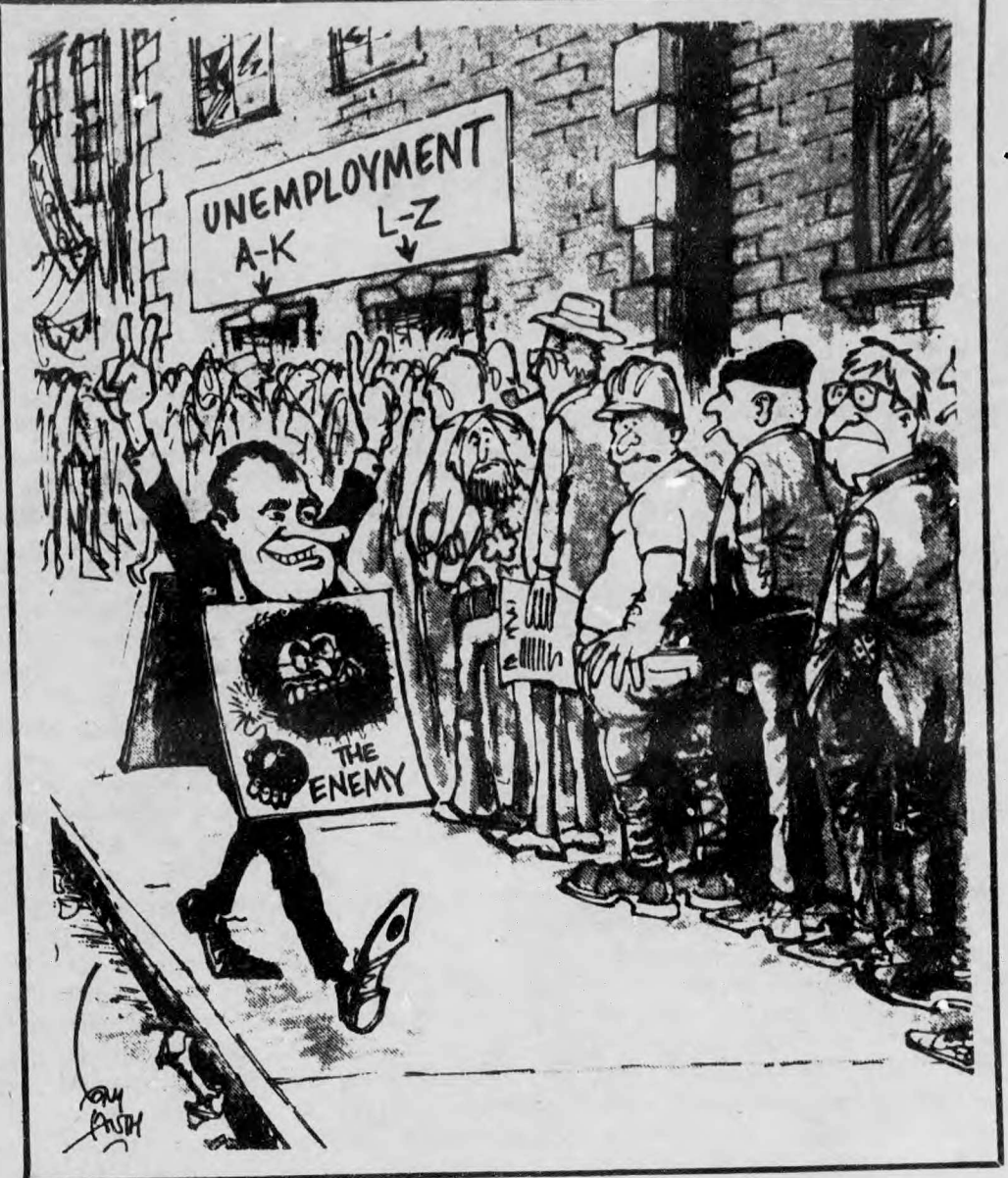
But to Mae Brussel, the verdict is already clear.

"The manner in which Martha was handled simply indicates how the fascist police agents are forced to treat any witness to their espionage acts. Parts of that invisible government were visible to Martha Mitchell and she panicked. Martha has to be a political prisoner because she was a witness to some kind of dirty work."

"A high summit meeting was held between John Mitchell and president Nixon. Both came out of it agreeing on two things: Wives of politicians sometimes have a difficult time entertaining themselves; and Martha only had "one guard" from the committee to re-elect Richard Nixon."

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There had only been isolated mention



of the roles the members of the Watergate raiding team intended to play at the Republican party convention in Miami.

For preliminaries, McCord Associates -director James McCord-was contacted "to provide all security for the Republican convention". The Republican party was the first and only client of McCord Associates, which may explain why McCord was assigned his own radio frequency on May 7 this year.

McCord Associates was not licensed to perform security services, as required by law. The firm's charter mentions nothing concerning security work. And McCord Associates was not legally incorporated until November 19 last year -several weeks after the contract had been signed with the Republican national committee.

At the same time as McCord was guarding the convention hall in Miami, other members of the Watergate team planned to be out in the streets demonstrating.

Bernard Barker told Miami friends that "something is going to happen at the time of the conventions". As yet, no account has come forward as to what Barker did with \$114,000, except that a bugging device cost \$3500, the raiders were found with \$5300, and Liddy paid McCord \$1600.

Barker could have had up to \$100,000 in crisp \$100 notes with which he could produce his "something . . .to happen". Barker, Sturgis, Martinez and Gonzales have all been identified in association with the planning of right-wing demonstrations in Miami.

(Sturgis called two private Catholic colleges for "lodging in August for Young Republicans". Martinez was also planning to import some 3000 similar individuals, probably members of YAF or similar organizations.)

As Mae Brussel observes: "Arrested with James McCord were political extremists, violently anti-communist intelligence agents. They were all plan-

ning convention demonstrations. Each of these men would make McCord's job more difficult in Miami unless they were working as a team for another purpose.

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There was no state of emergency declared at the Republican convention in August; no attempt was made to overthrow the American government.

And at the present time, there is no evident reason why any right wing group should want to seize power before an election which is almost certain to return Richard Nixon to the presidency.

There is no positive proof of involvement in a conspiracy by the president, the Republican party, the White House, the CIA or the FBI. However, government agencies have protected those involved in the Watergate affair.

The Justice department did not issue any search warrants for the homes of the seven persons involved, nor did it obtain a court order preventing the CRP from destroying some of its records which could have been potential evidence.

The seven men who raided the Watergate did plan to stage demonstrations in Miami, but no reason has been given as to their cause.

Their aim could have been simply to force the Nixon administration to introduce stronger action against militant radicals, or they may have had similar ideas to the "high-ranking police officers" described by Tackwood who wanted a "final solution to all militant problems in America".

Finally, this writer is unable to confirm or deny the existence of a conspiracy to overthrow the present system of government in the United States. But the material available suggests such a conspiracy, supported by the radical right wing, and this, I believe, is sufficient cause for alarm throughout the world.