1. WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE OF 11 MARCH 1974 HAS CAPTION "HELMS SAYS BARKER FIRED FOR GAMBLING". LEAD PARAGRAPH STATES "THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY FIRED CONVICTED WATERGATE BURGLAR BERNARD L. BARKER IN THE MID-1960'S BECAUSE HE WAS INVOLVED WITH 'GAMBLING AND CRIMINAL ELEMENTS,' ACCORDING TO FORMER CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS."

2. PARAGRAPHS 2 & 3 REVIEW WHO BARKER IS AND WHAT HE IS ACCUSED OF, I.E., WATERGATE BREAK-IN, BREAK-IN OF DR. FIELDING'S OFFICE, ETC.

3. REMAINDER OF ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS:

"HELM'S TESTIMONY, GIVEN TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS ON FEB. 7, 1973, WAS LIKE SUNSET ON YESTERDAY, THE HEARINGS WERE HELD ON THE PROPOSITION OF HELMS TO BE AN AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ.

BARKER IN ATTORNEY, DARRYL K. SCHULTZ, PROMPTLY DENIED HELMS' TESTIMONY TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH OFFICIAL INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE CIA. "IT IS CATEGORICALLY FALSE," BARKER SAID, "AND I'M SIMPLY NOT TRUE," SCHULTZ SAID.

BARKER'S STATEMENT ON BARKER APPEARED TO CONFLICT WITH MACHINE TRANSCRIPT OF HIS TESTIMONY TO THE CIA GIVEN IN SWORN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE WATERGATE COMMITTEE MAY 24, 1973, SIX MONTHS AFTER HELMS TESTIFIED AT THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

BARKER TOLD THE COMMITTEE ABOUT BARKER:

"WHEN THE DAY OF WOES HE WAS ONE OF THE CUBAN EXPLORATIOUS WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THAT OPERATION AND IS IS MY PERSUASION THAT ALL LINES WITH HIM ON THE PART OF THE AGENCY..."
WERE ELIMINATED SOME TIME IN THE MIDDLE '60s.

BARKER TESTIFYING TO THE WATERGATE COMMITTEE, SAID
HE LEFT THE CIA IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE END OF THE BAY OF PIGS
OPERATION IN APRIL, 1961, AND HAS NO FURTHER CONNECTION
WITH IT UNTIL HUNT APPROACHED HIM 10 YEARS LATER TO SET UP THE
BURGLARY TEAM.

"CIA SPOKESMEN SAID IT WOULD BE 'DIFFICULT' TO FIND OUT
EXACTLY WHEN BARKER LEFT THE AGENCY OR THE CIRCUMSTANCES," END
OF ARTICLE.

4. ON 10 MARCH 1974, AT 2055 HOURS BERNARD BARKER CALLED
THE SECURITY DUTY OFFICER AT THE AGNEC7. HE WAS VERY UPSET AND
ANGRY AND PROCEEDED TO READ THEM THE FOREGOING STORY. HE
STATED HE HAD NEVER BEEN INVOLVED WITH GAMBLERS OR CRIMINALS,
THAT HE HAD TO ANSWER THIS CHARGE AGAINST HIM. HE ASKED IF HE
WOULD BE BREAKING HIS OATH OF SECRECY IF HE SAID THAT HELMS WAS
A LIAR. SDO REPLIED THAT BARKER'S CALL WOULD BE REPORTED AND
GOT BARKER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER.

5. BARKER WAS CONTACTED BY JOHN WARNER'S OFFICE TODAY
WISHED TO ACKNOWLEDGE HIS CALL AND TO ADVISE THE MATTER WAS
BEING LOOKED INTO.

6. WARNER'S OFFICE HAS VERIFIED THAT YOU DID SO TESTIFY
IN BARKER.

7. CAN YOU AT THIS POINT IDENTIFY WHERE YOU GOT YOUR
INFORMATION ABOUT BARKER? AGENCY RECORDS REVIEWED HERE SHOW
YOU AS IA LOYAL, DEDICATED PERSON. UPON HIS TERMINATION FROM
EMPLOYMENT ON 2 JULY 1966, HE WAS GIVEN A TERMINAL
RETIREMENT IN RECOGNITION OF HIS LENGTHY PERIOD OF LOYAL
SERVICE TO THE AGENCY. TERMINATION WAS TO ALLOW HIM TO ACCEPT
RETIRED IN THE BELL SYSTEM CORPORATION, A SUBSIDIARY OF THE
BELLSOUTH CORPORATION LOCATED IN CHICAGO, ILL., WHICH HE
RETIRED FOR GOOD. AT THE TIME OF TERMINATION HIS CONTRACT
TERMINATION, HE WAS RECEIVING $500.00 PER MONTH.

8. COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE CONFUSED BERNARD BARKER WITH
FRANK STURGIS (ALIAS PHURNE) WHO DID HAVE QUESTIONABLE BACK-
GROUND WHO WAS NEVER CONNECTED WITH, EMPLOYED BY OR USED BY
THE AGENCY? WE OBVIOUSLY SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT THIS IN REVIEW OF TRANSCRIPT BEFORE PUBLICATION.

9. WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD INFORM BARKER AND HIS ATTORNEY, SCHULTZ, THAT "AGENCY RECORDS HAVE BEEN CONSULTED WHICH INDICATE THAT BARKER LEFT THE AGENCY IN COMPLETE GOOD GRACE AND THAT THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO HELMS CONCERNING BARKER IS INACCURATE. HELMS HAS AUTHORIZED US TO CONVEY HIS SINCEREST REGRETS FOR THIS ERROR." HOUSTON HAS BEEN CONSULTED AND AGREES THAT THIS WOULD BE A DESIRABLE APPROACH.

10. THERE WILL BE PRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL QUERIES. WE PROPOSE THAT WE GIVE THEM SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED STATEMENT TO BARKER AND SCHULTZ.

11. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU AGREE OR HAVE OTHER THOUGHTS AS TO ACTION TO BE TAKEN.

SECRET