

get past H. R. Halderman and John Ehrlichman, who were then the guardians of the presidential sanctum.

Their replacements, Melvin Laird and Bryce Harlow, still haven't been taken into the President's deep confidence. They didn't even accompany him to San Clemente, where he pondered his Watergate course in his usual solitude.

The President has pledged, however, a new open-door policy. He is taking phone calls, for example, from important senators who used to be unable to get through to him.

Those who have spoken to him about Watergate tell us he is both hurt and annoyed by the Senate revelations. They insist, however, that the President shows no sign of desperation. He doesn't intend to resign nor expect to be impeached. He believes the Watergate episode eventually will diminish, in contrast with his diplomatic achievements.

He swears to his friends that he had no part in the Watergate break-in nor the illegal cover-up. "I'm not stupid," one visitor quoted him as

saying. "If I had known about the skulduggery, I'd have fired those people." He claims he was deceived by people he trusted.

### AMA Rejects Ad

The American Medical Association, whose journal draws heavy income from drug ads and whose pension fund has \$10 million in drug stocks, has refused an ad for a guide to drug prices.

The book, Physician's Guide to Prescription Prices, gives doctors and consumers comparative costs of drugs. The drug firms that advertise in the AMA Journal oppose comparative pricing because it helps doctors prescribe safe, inexpensive drugs instead of the same product sold with fancy trade names at fancy prices.

In trying to explain why it turned down the ad, the AMA told the book's publishers "we would not presume to encourage efforts to 'fix' prices. . . . Actually, by refusing the ad, the AMA has done just that: comparative pricing is one way to stop price fixing.

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### Nixon's Promise

President Nixon has promised his new advisers that he'll change his habits and make himself more accessible.

Previously, he had remained in such splendid isolation that even Vice President Spiro Agnew had been unable to break through the palace guard with advice on Watergate.

The Vice President had tried to reach Nixon with urgent Watergate advice from several Republican senators. But Agnew had to report back last March that he couldn't

AMOR SUN 7/3/73