

# Nixon Has Full Faith In Ash, Aide Maintains

By Carroll Kilpatrick  
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon has complete confidence in Roy L. Ash, whom he has appointed director of the Office of Management and Budget, despite allegations that Ash manipu-

lated financial records 20 years ago, the White House said yesterday.

Acting press secretary Gerald L. Warren declined to discuss incidents described in a Washington Post report yesterday on court records in which Ash is named.

Asked if the White House was aware of the accusations before Mr. Nixon appointed Ash to the OMB, Warren said Ash discussed "various business questions with individuals on the White House staff" before his appointment.

When asked if the President has complete confidence in Ash, Warren replied: "Of course."

Asked if the White House accepted the Ash version of the case or had made an independent investigation, Warren said he did not have "any report to give you on the discussions Mr. Ash had with the White House. I have said the President has confidence in Mr. Ash."

Warren added that the FBI had conducted a full investigation into Ash's record as it does of all appointees.

Ash is scheduled to become OMB director after Caspar L. Weinberger, the present director, is confirmed as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

Ash has been working in the Executive Office Building for several weeks familiarizing himself with the job, and when Mr. Nixon was in Florida before Christmas Ash used the President's Executive Office Building office.

It has been alleged that Ash



OTTO KERNER

... accused of conspiracy

falsified company records when he was working with the Hughes Aircraft Division of Hughes Tool Co.