

on Dean as Counsel

DEAN

EHRLICHMAN

(i.e., Fielding)

FBI (under) - 1/21/80, Fielding is there a lawyer in the firm?

it was Ehrlichman who met with him and asked if there was an in-house expert that could explain to people the machinations of the grand jury.

Ehrlichman, Fielding said, also wanted legal opinions on matters of executive privilege and, furthermore, had drafted an affidavit for White House staff aides to sign, swearing that they had no prior knowledge of Watergate events.

Fielding said that he, Dean and the other three practicing attorneys at the White House did not have the expertise needed to answer the questions about grand jury and executive privilege matters. He said Ehrlichman wondered if Fielding knew anyone in the Justice Department who could be called upon to help.

THROUGHOUT March and April, Fielding said, White House aides worried about approaching Justice for such help because it was the Justice Department that was conducting the investigation and that there might be an appearance of a conflict of interest.

Fielding did, however, prepare the