

Post 2/23/74

Lawyer Anticipates Watergate Charges

The attorney for former presidential aides H. R. (Bob) Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman said yesterday that he wouldn't be surprised if both are indicted shortly.

The lawyer, John J. Wilson, said he has not received any word to that effect from Watergate prosecutors. He said he was simply trying to be realistic.

Indictments in the Watergate scandal—covering the break-in at Democratic national headquarters here and the subsequent cover-up—are expected to be returned shortly after the selection and sequestration of a jury for the New York trial of former Cab-

inet officers John N. Mitchell and Maurice A. Stans on obstruction of justice charges.

Watergate prosecutors fear that major new indictments before that point might pose problems of prejudicial publicity for the New York trial.

Selection of a jury for the Mitchell-Stans trial in New York is not expected to be completed before late next week.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman, formerly President Nixon's highest-ranking aides, have both been under intensive investigation by the Watergate grand jury here. Both have denied any wrongdoing.