## White House Considered Reprisal Cuts Against MIT

Washington Post Staff Writer

unds to the Massachusetts Intitute of Technology as a potical reprisal against its people and policies.

The reprisals were consid-April of 1972, but were never acted upon at least partly because of a total lack of supopposition to the idea from follows: the Pentagon or a combination "You should give guidance on of both.

The idea of political reprisal

published in yesterday's issue | der no further funding of non-The White House considered arm of the American Associa- 30, 1972 (31 million dollars); utting off all federal research tion for the Advancement of Cancel non-defense contracts Science. The first memo was now (\$31 million less cancellasent from former White House tion penalties)." aide Jon Huntsman to then presidential assistants George P. Shultz, Henry A. Kissinger ered in October of 1971 and and John D. Ehrlichman. The second went from Ehrlichman will be identified by contract to President Nixon.

Science quotes the April, port from the federal agencies 1972, memo from Ehrlichman funding, rather than cancellafunding the research, heated to the President in part as tion, to avoid penalty claims

these specifics:

"-Cut out the DOD Departagainst MIT was discussed in ment of Defense) laser protwo White House memoranda | gram (40 million dollars); Or-

of Science magazine, editorial defense programs as of June

Ehrlichman is also reported as writing:

"The \$31 million (non-defense funds) is fair game and number immediately. The best method is to order no further and lawsuits. Such an order would actually stop funds as of June 30 (71 days from

In response to the Science

See MIT, A4, Col. 7

## MIT, Fom A1

story, the White House said it could find no record of Ehrlichman's memo or Huntsman's memo. The White House said it would continue to search its files for both memos and did not issue a denial that they had been written.

The Huntsman memo was labeled "confidential sensiive" and discusses a plan of political reprisal against MIT. raised by President Nixon as far back as 1970. This memo is addressed to Shultz, Kissinger and Ehrlichman by Huntsman, who was White House staff secretary at the time.

"Upon reading the attached article which appeared in the Wall Street Journal October 12, 1971 (about the ABM debate and the scientific community)," the Huntsman memo reads, "it was requested that you report on the progress that has been made on he President's directive of a ear ago to cut back on MIT's ubsidy in view of Wiesner's antidefense bias."

The Wiesner referred to by Huntsman is Dr. Jerome B. Wiesner, president of MIT and onetime science adviser to the late President Kennedy who led academic opposition to development of the antiballistic missile. Wiesner argued publicly that the ABM wouldn't

Science 'speculates that the reprisals against MIT were a personal attack on Wiesner, whose name appeared on the White House "enemies list" released by former White House counsel John W. Dean, III. Wiesner has long been identified as a close friend of the

felt that the idea of reprisals against MIT never went beyond the White House, One source said he felt certain that former Defense Secretary Melvin Laird was instrumental in killing the idea.

"There's a lot of smarts up at MIT," said this source, who held a high Pentagon post under Laird, "and we had to get our work done."

Sep Robert & Rejound of Sec. Edward M. Records Wiesher These sources

The week a int of page was dealing with Mile, source recalled. "The Win MIT decided to spin of i

While wast source they never sow the memo-, mullished by Science, the ways a secure of the manner of the secure of