

# Sirica Delays Decision

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas lawyer Jake Jacobsen pleaded innocent Friday to a charge that he lied to a grand jury looking for links between the 1971 hike in milk prices and contributions to the 1972 Republican campaign.

Jacobsen, once President Lyndon B. Johnson's legislative counsel, will be tried after another trial scheduled for May in Texas, where he is charged with misapplying \$825,000 belonging to the First Savings and Loan Association of San Angelo.

Meanwhile, U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica said he expects to rule Monday on whether a sealed grand jury report that accompanied the Watergate cover-up indictments will be forwarded to the House for its impeachment inquiry.

Sirica must decide, first, whether a grand jury can even issue such a report or must only "indict or forget," as claimed by lawyers for cover-up defendants H.R. Haldeman

and John D. Ehrlichman. Then the judge must rule whether the legislative branch is entitled to a grand jury report.

The White House has taken no position on whether the report, said to detail President Nixon's role in Watergate, should go to the House. But President Nixon's lawyer, James D. St. Clair, has asked to see a copy if Sirica decides the report will be forwarded.

The Watergate prosecutor said at a hearing March 6 that the grand jury's recommendation to submit the report to the Judiciary Committee should be followed. The committee's lawyers asked the same.

Sirica, who steps down as chief judge of the court on Tuesday, was expected to rule by Friday. But aides said the complicated decision has taken more time than anticipated.

A Watergate grand jury indicted Jacobsen on Feb. 21, alleging that he lied in swearing he let \$10,000 lie untouched in a

bank safe-deposit box for 2½ years.

The indictment said the grand jury heard evidence that, within two months after the March 25, 1971, price support decision by Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin, Jacobsen "had solicited and received \$10,000 from Associated Milk Producers, Inc."

The indictment said the money from the dairy organization "was to be paid to a public official for his assistance in connection with the price support decision."

The official was not named, but sources familiar with testimony in the case said that Bob

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## On Jury Report

A. Lilly, the milk producers' political treasurer, had testified that Jacobsen told him the money was to be paid to former Treasury Secretary John

B. Connally.

Connally has denied publicly that he received a bribe.

The charge against Jacobsen, that of making a false declaration before a grand jury.