

Justice Department Denies San Diego Charges by Life

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—The Justice Department branded as false today Life magazine's charges that the Nixon Administration had seriously tampered with justice in San Diego.

"They are based on misinformation, innuendo, hearsay and a rehash of old rumors which were thoroughly investigated more than a year ago," said a statement issued five days after the Life article was made public. It added:

"There has been no White House influence or attempted influence, direct or indirect, in the department's investigations and prosecutions. The department has proceeded properly and vigorously without favoritism to anyone."

The Life article said that the Nixon Administration had tampered with justice in San Diego to protect highly placed campaign contributors and friends of President Nixon from criminal prosecutions over the last two years.