

Haldeman and Ehrlichman Testify Before Grand Jury

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WASHINGTON, May 3—H. R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman, who resigned recently as senior advisers to President Nixon, appeared at the United States Courthouse

here today to testify in the Watergate investigation.

A lawyer for both men, John J. Wilson, told reporters that he did not know if the two men were afraid they would be indicted in the case, but he said that they "have no fear of being convicted."

Meantime, Elliot L. Richardson, the Attorney General-designate, gave the impression to Senators who met with him that he would appoint a special prosecutor to handle the Watergate case. One Senator said that he expected such a move in the "next day or two."

President Nixon flew to the Florida White House for a long weekend, and it was reported that he was expected to appoint this weekend an interim adviser to help to fill top White House vacancies created by the resignations of Mr. Haldeman and Mr. Ehrlichman.

Results of Poll

In another development, a special Gallup Poll has found that half of the voting-age population believes that the President took part in a cover-up and that four of seven people who heard Mr. Nixon's television speech on Monday think that he has not yet told the "whole truth."

However, the poll also found that 58 per cent of those questioned saw "little difference" between the Nixon Administration and others over the last 25 years.

The two former White House officials, smiling and appearing relaxed, arrived at the courthouse early this morning to confer privately and at length with the principal Assistant

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United States Attorney, Earl J. Silbert.

Mr. Ehrlichman then went alone before a Federal grand jury investigating the scandal and a reported White House effort to cover it up. The onetime domestic adviser to the President spent more than three hours in the secret proceeding.

Mr. Haldeman, who was chief of staff at the White House, remained in the courthouse.

Other major developments in the Watergate affair included the following:

¶A secretary to G. Gordon Liddy, one of the men convicted in the conspiracy, has said under oath that she typed reports based on wiretaps of telephones in the offices of the Democratic National Committee.

¶A lawyer for Jeb Stuart Magruder, former deputy director of the President's campaign organization, confirmed that his client had said that he expected to be convicted and jailed.

Mr. Haldeman and Mr. Ehrlichman, whose resignations from the White House staff were announced on Monday, met with other prosecutors—for about two hours this morning.

Mr. Ehrlichman entered the grand jury chamber at about 2:15 P.M. The panel took a recess after 6 P.M. Shortly after 7 P.M., Mr. Haldeman entered the room in an evening session.

Later Meeting Set

The two former officials are scheduled to meet later this week—perhaps tomorrow—with the staff of the Senate's Watergate investigating committee, which is expected to begin public hearings in two weeks.

Mr. Wilson, their lawyer, emerged from the closely guarded offices of the prosecution to say that Mr. Ehrlichman had at no point left the grand jury room to seek his advice, a step he would be permitted to take.

In this exchange with reporters, Mr. Wilson said that he was "optimistic" that his clients would not be indicted. When asked whether there was any chance that the two men might invoke their Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination, he said that he could not "anticipate" that.

Soon after Mr. Ehrlichman went before the grand jury, an unidentified woman in a blue dress arrived in a White House automobile and carried a manilla envelope into the United States Attorney's offices.

Mr. Wilson reported later that the woman worked in the Old Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House, and that she had brought a single-page memorandum. He declined to disclose its contents or purpose.

The files of Mr. Haldeman, Mr. Ehrlichman and John W. Dean 3d, who was dismissed on Monday as counsel to the President, have been placed under an around-the-clock guard.

Allegations Recalled

There have been various allegations that all three men, as well as other Administration officials, took part in a broad attempt to cover up the conspiracy to spy on the Democrats during last year's campaign.

Mr. Magruder, who has also resigned his position in the Administration, was questioned briefly on Monday by a reporter in the Washington news bureau of Westinghouse Broadcasting Company.

He and his lawyer, James J. Bierbower, met for five hours earlier that day with Mr. Silbert and another member of the prosecution team, Seymour Glanzer, in Mr. Bierbower's office.

The Westinghouse report, broadcast today, quoted Mr. Magruder as saying that he expected to be indicted by the grand jury and to receive a nine-month prison sentence for his part in the Watergate scandal. He would not specify the charge.

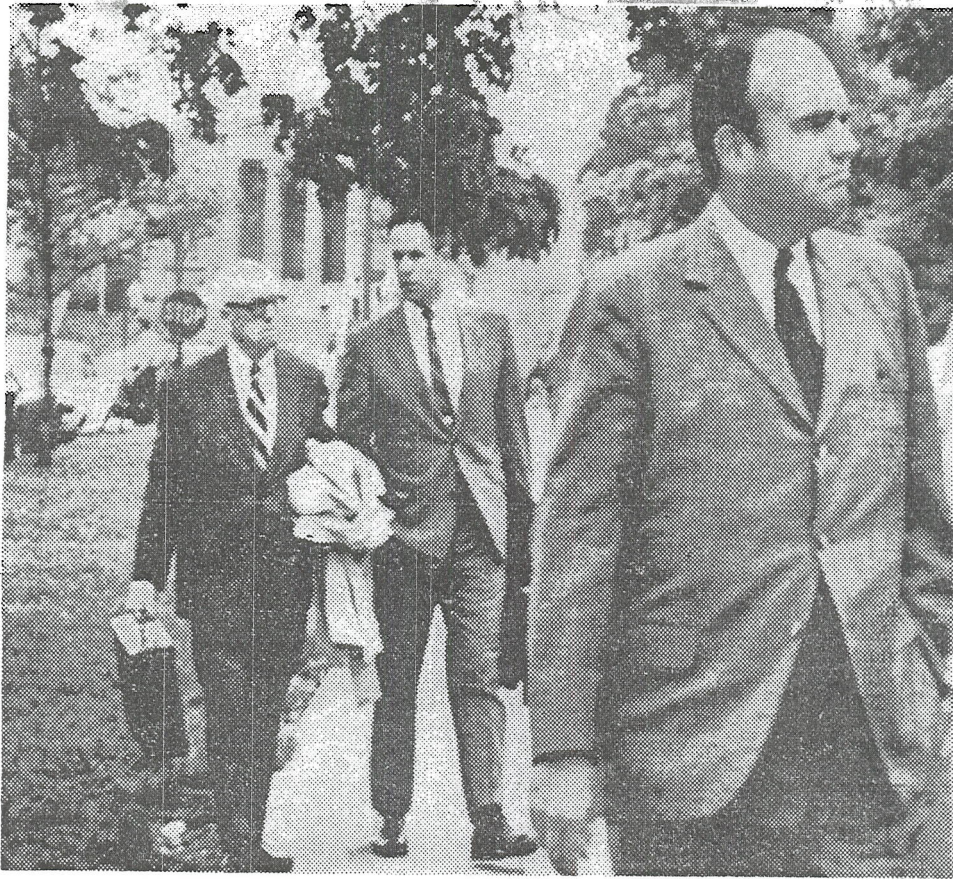
Mr. Bierbower confirmed that Mr. Magruder expected to go to jail, but the lawyer denied that his client had specified the sentence he expected to receive.

Mr. Magruder has reportedly informed the prosecutors that he discussed plans for the bugging with Liddy, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and Mr. Dean at meetings early this year.

On April 17, President Nixon said that no official implicated in the case could expect to receive immunity from prosecution in exchange for giving testimony. Cooperative witnesses presumably could receive lesser sentences, however.

Mr. Bierbower refused to comment on the conference Monday with Mr. Silbert and Mr. Glanzer. He would not directly deny that the meeting had involved bargaining over how Mr. Magruder would be handled.

Liddy's onetime secretary, Sally J. Harmony, testified last Friday in a pretrial proceeding held in connection with civil litigation between Democrats and Republicans that grew out of the Watergate break-in.



Associated Press

John D. Ehrlichman, right, and H.R. Haldeman, second from right, with their attorney, John J. Wilson, going to meeting yesterday with Watergate prosecutor, Earl J. Silbert.