

'60 to 90 Days'

New Watergate Indictments Due

Washington

U.S. Attorney Harold H. Titus Jr. announced yesterday that further indictments are expected in the Watergate case within 60 to 90 days.

He said one of the key figures in the case has agreed to plead guilty and serve as a prosecution witness at the trial.

That key witness was identified by government sources as Jeb Stuart Magruder, second in command at the Committee for the Re-Election of the President last fall. Magruder was one of those whose testimony is believed to have reopened and greatly broadened the Watergate investigation last month.

SENTENCE

Other sources said Magruder has been assured that if he pleads guilty and testifies for the prosecution government attorneys will ask the court to go easy on his sentence. A source said that the prosecutors would make the strongest possible representations to the court on his behalf.

Magruder's lawyer, James J. Bierbower, declined to comment.

Titus said that others had admitted their guilt in the case. Similar exchanges of

light sentences for guilty pleas are being negotiated with them, he indicated. Still others under investigation have been given immunity, he said. Titus gave no names.

Titus said the indictments would be "comprehensive" and would "focus on the obstruction of justice which occurred after the Watergate arrest on June 17, 1972, but will include criminal activities beginning in 1971, which together with the Watergate break-in, motivated the massive obstruction."

BRISCUOTQRS

Titus, who oversees the 148 assistant U.S. attorneys here, also announced that the three prosecutors who have been handling the Watergate investigation since it began last June will stay on the job. However, the new special prosecutor, Archibald Cox, who is to be sworn in today, has told Titus that a final decision on retaining the three will be made later.

Seven men — all of them directly tied to the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate Hotel complex — were indicted last September 15. Five pleaded guilty and two were convicted in a trial that ended in January.



JEB S. MAGRUDER
He may plead guilty

At least a dozen former White House and Republican re-election committee officials are expected to be indicted in the new investigation.

N.Y. Times Service