

A Little Friendly Byplay

Washington

John D. Ehrlichman, throwing back every barb hurled at him, told reporters yesterday he has spent much of his current period of unemployment sailing and reading. He said he has no firm plans for the future.

Ehrlichman, formerly one of President Nixon's top aides, talked with reporters during a recess at the Senate Watergate hearings — the first time he has done so.

He asked Nicholas Von Hoffmann, columnist for the Washington Post and one of his severest critics, what he was writing about these days.

"About you," Von Hoffmann laughed. Ehrlichman replied that he hadn't read him in three years.

When someone asked what his future plans were, Ehrlichman laughed again and said that maybe he would "write a column."

"You couldn't get it out

from where you're going," Von Hoffmann said in an obvious reference to possible criminal indictments against Ehrlichman.

"Don't kid yourself," Ehrlichman shot back, smiling.

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