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**Republican to Direct
Hill Impeachment Study**

By Mary Russell
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John M. Doar, a former assistant attorney general and veteran of dramatic civil rights confrontations in the South, was named yesterday by House Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter Rodino (D-N. J.) to head the panel's presidential impeachment inquiry.

Rodino said the 52-year-old Republican "will immediately assume direction of the inquiry that is already underway. During the recess he will organize the staff and determine the additional legal and investigative work necessary so that members of the Judiciary Committee will have the benefit of a full, thorough, fair and objective presentation of the facts."

The choice of Doar ends an almost two-month-long search from among nearly

100 candidates for a special counsel to head the committee's controversial inquiry into whether grounds exist for impeachment.

Doar is a life-long Republican, which was one of the attractions for Rodino, who insists that he wants to conduct a "bipartisan" inquiry. Rodino praised Doar's "outstanding ability" and "highest integrity."

Rodino said he would convene an ad hoc advisory committee consisting of subcommittee chairmen and ranking Republican members of the committee during the recess to instruct Doar on how to proceed. When Congress reconvenes Jan. 21, Rodino hopes to give the Judiciary Committee a progress report.

Rodino reiterated his target date of April for report-

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John M. Doar: 'I am persistent . . . in the cause of justice.'

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ing to the House on whether to recommend impeachment or not, but said, "I am not going to be locked in by that date."

Responding to a statement by presidential adviser Malvin R. Laird that the committee ought to finish its work by March 15, Rodino said, "I respect Mr. Laird as a man who performed ably as Secretary of Defense and an adviser to President Nixon. However, I am chairman of the Judiciary Committee and I'm afraid Mr. Laird is not informed as to the process involved."

Later Rodino read a telephoned message from Laird congratulating Rodino for choosing Doar.

Republicans on the committee, who have complained of foot dragging by the chairman and of not being kept informed, were less enthusiastic about Doar.

When Rep. Edward Hutchinson of Michigan, the ranking Republican, was urged to pose for a picture with Doar and Rodino because "Doar comes from a good Republican family," Hutchinson snapped, "So did Soapy Williams." The reference was to G. Mennen (Soapy) Williams, liberal Democratic former governor of Michigan.

Hutchinson said he knew nothing about Doar. "This was not a bipartisan appointment. I had no part in it. There was no consultation. I didn't meet him until yesterday afternoon."

Rodino said it was the custom for chairmen to pick their staffs and he made the choice himself after consulting with academicians, members of bar associations, men in government and on the bench. Doar's name was mentioned by many of them, Rodino said.

Doar, 6 feet 2 inches with wavy graying hair, was carefully diffident and self-effacing during the press conference announcing his \$36,000-a-year job. He stressed that his role was to "present matters fully and fairly so they [the Judiciary Committee] can make decisions."

Doar was head of the civil rights division in the troubled '60s under Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. Later he headed the Bed-

ford-Stuyvesant Development and Services Corp. that Kennedy, as a New York senator, founded in Brooklyn, trying to revitalize an area where more than 400,000 blacks live. Doar resigned last Friday from the organization.

Doar said he was appointed to the Justice Department by President Eisenhower late in his term in 1960. He met Robert Kennedy in 1961 and Kennedy asked him to stay on: "I work hard and the Attorney General likes hard workers." Doar said he took pride in and cherished the Kennedy's friendship and is still a good friend of Mrs. Robert Kennedy, but said he would not describe their present relationship as "close."

Doar characterized himself as "fair, thorough."

"I guess I am persistent but I'm persistent in the cause of justice," he said. Friends and associates characterize him as "moralistic, puritanical, straight arrow" and "a stickler for facts" and "a demon for work."

Impatient with young lawyers who filed vague briefs, he once sent every lawyer in the civil rights division a copy of a Rolls Royce advertisement saying the car was so quiet you could hear its clock tick. Stating the fact was more convincing than simply saying the car

was quiet, Doar pointed out.

Doar was on hand for most of the major civil rights marches and confrontations in the South during the early 60s and was cited several times for his courage.

When James Meredith was turned away at the University of Mississippi by Gov. Ross Barnett, Doar was at his side. And when in September of 1962 Meredith was admitted, touching off a riot, Doar spent the night in Meredith's dormitory room.

In Jackson, Miss., in 1963, after funeral services for Medgar Evers, 5,000 black mourners were met by two solid lines of police. When angry blacks started throwing bottles and it looked as if the situation might explode, Doar, in his shirt-sleeves, stepped into the crowd and successfully pleaded with them to disperse.

Doar was born in Minneapolis on Dec. 3, 1921, served as a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, graduated from Princeton in 1946 and the University of California law school in 1949, then set up practice with his father in New Richmond, Wis.

While president of Bedford-Stuyvesant Corp., he was named by Mayor John V. Lindsay to the New York City board of education.

Doar is divorced and has four children, Gail, Michael, John Burke, and Robert, ages 5 to 22 years. His family will remain in Brooklyn during the inquiry.

Doar was once quoted as saying, "I'm a reformer at heart. I like to run against the dragons."

Doar said yesterday he didn't see any dragons in his new job. He explained his motivations this way: "I'm a lawyer. I like to take on difficult cases. I like to prepare cases. I want to see the Constitution preserved and fairness prevail."