

COX ITEM DENIED BY WHITE HOUSE

Report on His Dismissal Is
Called 'Totally False'

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif., Jan. 6 (AP)—The White House denied last night a published report that a reason for the dismissal of Archibald Cox as special Watergate prosecutor was a fear that President Nixon would be named as an unindicted co-conspirator in a Watergate indictment.

The New York Times carried the report in its Sunday editions.

The White House deputy press secretary, Gerald L. Warren, said, "Any story that Mr. Cox was dismissed for such a reason is totally false. Mr. Cox was dismissed because he refused to abide by a Presidential instruction."

The newspaper also quoted well-informed sources as saying that Mr. Cox and his staff had discussed the possibility of naming the President as an unindicted co-conspirator as a solution to the constitutional restraint against indicting a President. Mr. Cox said he had never considered such an action.

Interviewed in Tucson, Ariz., last night, Mr. Cox said:

"There is no basis whatsoever for any supposition that I ever considered naming the President as an unindicted co-conspirator in an indictment."

Mr. Cox, who spoke in Tucson at a \$100-a-plate fundraising dinner for Representative Morris K. Udall, Democrat of Arizona, added, "No member of my staff ever made such a recommendation to me. To the

best of my knowledge, no member of my staff ever entertained such an idea."

Mr. Warren said aspects of the story relating to "attitudes and intentions of the special prosecutor's staff" would have to be commented on by Leon Jaworski, who replaced Mr. Cox as special prosecutor.

Congressman a Rescuer

LOWELL, Mass., Jan. 5 (UPI)—Representative Paul W. Cronin, Republican of Massachusetts, ran into a burning tenement Saturday and carried several small children to safety before firemen arrived.