

# Krogh Tells Of Exchange With Dean

## Washington

Former White House aide Egil (Bud) Krogh said yesterday that John W. Dean III told him last March 20 that President Nixon "just doesn't know what's been going on" in the Watergate scandal.

Krogh said he became convinced on the basis of that conversation with Dean, whom Mr. Nixon fired on April 30 as White House counsel, that the President was not involved or even aware of the coverup that followed the June 20, 1972, break-in at Democratic headquarters at the Watergate.

In a television interview ("60 Minutes" — CBS), the former head of the secret White House "Plumbers" investigative unit seemed to contradict the heart of Dean's testimony before the Senate Watergate committee last June. Dean said he believed Mr. Nixon was aware of the coverup as early as Sept. 15, 1972, less than three months after the break-in.

The President has said he did not become aware of the true scope of the scandal and its coverup until late March last year.

Krogh, who was sentenced to a minimum six months in prison last week for his part

in the 1971 burglary of the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist in Beverly Hills, Calif., said he and Dean met March 20, the day before Dean has said he tried to tell

Mr. Nixon everything he knew about Watergate.

Krogh quoted Dean as saying, "Bud, the President is being badly served. He just doesn't know what's been going on."

Krogh said he advised Dean to see the President and "lay it all out on the table."

Questioned by CBS correspondent Mike Wallace, Krogh said that although Dean apparently followed his advice at the next day's meeting with Mr. Nixon, Krogh knew nothing of what former White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman or former attorney general John N. Mitchell might have told the President before March 21.

As for Dean, Krogh said he was not willing to suggest that his friend had committed perjury in his testimony about the President. It could be that Dean "did not tell the whole truth" at their March 20 meeting, Krogh said, but he believed Dean had.

Meanwhile, the Chicago Tribune in today's editions quoted Krogh as saying Mr. Nixon should express sorrow over Watergate in his state of the union message to Congress this week.

A.P. & U.P.