

John Dean's**Autobiography**

New YGrk

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, the publisher of works by Isaac Bashevis Singer and other famous authors, has nearly completed negotiations toward acquiring the rights to a forthcoming, largely autobiographical book by former White House counsel John Dean III, highly placed publishing industry sources reported last night.

"I have no comment. We can't confirm it at this time," said the firm's president, Roger W. Straus Jr., who was reached at his home here.

No immediate comment was made by Dean, a key witness in last year's Senate

Watergate hearings. During the televised proceedings, Dean testified that President Nixon had known of efforts to cover up the Watergate affair.

Dean's literary agent has been asking \$250,000 for rights to the book, the sources said, and it is to be partly an account of life in the Nixon White House and partly an analysis of how government operates.

Dean is understood to have indicated that the book would not contain any particularly sensational Watergate disclosures by the time it comes out since he expects that by then he will have testified in exhaustive detail about the scandal.

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