

L.A. Drops

Charges

In Burglary

By Robert Meyers

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LOS ANGELES, March 13—Burglary and conspiracy charges against John D. Ehrlichman, David Young, and G. Gordon Liddy Jr. were dropped in Los Angeles Superior Court today, but Ehrlichman must still face trial on one count of perjury.

Superior Court Judge Gordon Ringer also vacated the subpoena served on President Nixon for his appearance at the trial that was originally scheduled to begin April 15.

The charges stemmed from the 1971 break-in at the office of Dr. Lewis Fielding, Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist. The single count of perjury still remaining against Ehrlichman involves his appearance before the Los Angeles County grand jury.

The dismissal request was made by Deputy District Attorney Stephen Trott in view of the recent federal indictment of Ehrlichman and Liddy on a federal charge of violating the civil rights of Fielding.

Lawyers for David Young did not contest the dismissal recommendation. Young had been granted immunity from prosecution on that federal charge, and at the moment he is free from all charges.

Attorney for Liddy and Ehrlichman, however, protested dismissing the charges. They unsuccessfully argued that the action would not be a "true dismissal" in view of the federal civil rights violation charge. Liddy's lawyer, Charles Gessler, added that the change of venue would only benefit the prosecution, and deny his client a speedy trial.

In keeping the perjury charge against Ehrlichman, Judge Ringer at least initially accepted Trott's argument that Ehrlichman's alleged perjured testimony about his knowledge of the break-in "represents a separate and independent assault upon the integrity of the grand jury."

The perjury trial is tentatively scheduled to begin April 15. Judge Ringer will set a definite trial date Monday, and also rule on any pretrial motions.