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Report Of Nixon Refusal

Washington

Highly reliable sources said yesterday that the White House, apparently breaking a specific agreement worked out two days ago with a federal judge, has refused to permit John Ehrlichman and his attorneys to have full and direct access to Ehrlichman's personal notes of presidential meetings.

The sources said that Ehrlichman and his attorneys, William C. Frates and Andrew C. Hall of Miami, were told Tuesday by two presidential lawyers, James St. Clair and J. Fred Buzhardt, that the White House would screen the Ehrlichman notes to remove unrelated matters before turning them over.

Court insiders said that the revised White House policy would undoubtedly concern U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell, who has already threatened dismissal in the case, and may also expose St. Clair to contempt of court charges. Gesell has called for a hearing tomorrow on the White House compliance.

During a court hearing Monday in the "plumbers" case, St. Clair assured Gesell that Ehrlichman and his attorneys would be allowed to directly review the more than two years of notes that had been subpoenaed by the Ehrlichman attorneys.

New York Times