

Connally Pleads Not Guilty to Bribery,

*No Date for Trial Is Set
And No Bail Is Required*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1974

Perjury and Conspiracy

By ANTHONY RIPLEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—John B. Connally, Secretary of the Treasury for 16 months in the Nixon Administration, pleaded not guilty today to charges of accepting a bribe, committing perjury and conspiring to obstruct justice.

He appeared before chief Judge George L. Hart Jr. in United States District Court for an arraignment that took five minutes.

Judge Hart asked Mr. Connally and his lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams of Washington, whether they had read the five - count indictment and whether Mr. Connally intended to plead not guilty.

"Yes, your honor, I do," Mr. Connally told the court.

There seemed to be some confusion over whether this technically was a not guilty plea to all five counts and Frank Turkheimer, an assistant special prosecutor, asked about it.

"If there is any doubt, I plead not guilty to all counts," Mr. Connally said firmly.

Mr. Williams asked the court for 45 days in which to file motions and requested that no trial date be set. He told Judge Hart that he was not seeking a speedy trial. The judge agreed, and Mr. Connally was released without bail.

Mr. Connally was released without bail, Mr. Connally, who served as Secretary of the Navy under President Kennedy, as administrative assistant to Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, and as Democratic Governor of Texas for three terms, was indicted July 29 in the milk money scandal that came to light in the Watergate investigation.

He became a Democrat for Nixon in the 1972 campaign and last year switched to the Republican party. Mr. Connally was thought at one time to be a

leading Republican candidate for both the Presidency and for the Vice-Presidential nomination that went instead to Gerald R. Ford.

The indictment alleges that Mr. Connally received \$10,000 in two cash payments from the Associated Milk Producers, Inc., in exchange for his recommendations that the milk price support level be raised. President Nixon raised the price support in March of 1971.

The indictment said that Jake Jacobsen, a lawyer from Austin, Tex., delivered the money. Earlier this week Mr. Jacobsen pleaded guilty to giving Mr. Connally the money and is co-operating with the special prosecutor.

The indictment charges that Mr. Connally and Mr. Jacobsen conspired to make up a false story to cover the alleged payment and that Mr. Connally lied to one of the Watergate grand juries about it.

Trial Set for Jacobsen Aide

FORT WORTH, Tex., Aug. 9 (UPI)—Ray Cowan, an associate of Jake Jacobsen, the former lawyer for the Associated Milk Producers, Inc., will go on trial Sept. 23 in San Angelo for alleged misuse of a loan.

Mr. Jacobsen was also charged in the case, but the charges were dropped after he pleaded guilty earlier this week to paying a bribe to John B. Connally.

United States Attorney Frank McCown would not comment today on whether Mr. Jacobsen would testify in the Cowan case.

Mr. Cowan was charged with participating in the misuse of a \$825,000 loan from the First Savings and Loan Association in San Angelo while a director of the firm.

c 7
in the Milk Case



John B. Connally and his wife, Nellie, arriving at Washington courthouse yesterday before he pleaded not guilty to charges of accepting a bribe, as well as perjury and conspiracy to obstruct justice in the milk case.

The New York Times/Don Hogan Charles