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Nixon 'spurned' pleas

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Former White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman pleaded for presidential pardons from President Nixon in the final days before he resigned, but were rejected, the Washington Post reported today.

The Post, basing its story on informed sources, said Nixon deeply resented the tone and character of the requests.

The article said Nixon was

particularly resentful about the strenuous nature of Haldeman's plea, described as threatening and tantamount to blackmail.

Haldeman's attorney, John J. Wilson, was quoted as being unaware of any request by Haldeman, but adding that he wasn't denying it occurred.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman are scheduled to go on trial Sept. 30 for conspiracy in connection with the Watergate cover-up.