

22 NIXON CHOICES ENDORSED BY FORD

He Urges Senate to Confirm Holdover Nominations— Three Are in Dispute

By ANTHONY RIPLEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept 18—

President Ford has submitted a list of 22 names of holdover nominations made by President Nixon and has asked the Senate to confirm the choices.

Though most are expected to win approval, three are controversial. At least one of those, Earl J. Silbert, who was nominated last Jan. 30 to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, appears to be blocked for this session of Congress.

Mr. Silbert headed the original team of government prosecutors that handled the Watergate investigation. Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina and former chairman of the Senate Watergate committee, has led the opposition, questioning whether the scandals might have been brought to light earlier if Mr. Silbert and others at the Justice Department had acted more vigorously.

One of the other controversial nominees is Gov. J. Meskill of Connecticut. He was named to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit on Aug. 8, the day before Mr. Nixon resigned as President.

Meskill is opposed by the American Bar Association's Committee on the Federal Judiciary. Confirmation hearings are being held by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

One of the controversial nominees, Gov. Thomas J. Meskill of Connecticut, went before the Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday as his confirmation hearings opened. He is opposed by the American Bar Association's Committee on the Federal Judiciary.

Governor Meskill was nominated to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit on Aug. 8, the day before Mr. Nixon resigned as President.

No dates have been set for hearings on the other holdover appointees.

Nominee for F.P.C.

The third controversial nominee is Daniel T. Kingsley, a former special assistant to President Nixon in the White House personnel office who was

named to the Federal Power Commission on May 17.

Mr. Kingsley's nomination has been criticized because of his connection with the so-called "responsiveness program" in which the executive branch of government was said to be geared up to support Mr. Nixon's 1972 campaign.

The Senate Watergate committee called the responsiveness program "concerted and concealed" efforts by the White House to divert resources from the executive branch into the re-election campaign in what it said may have amounted to "a criminal conspiracy to defraud the United States."

The Senate Democratic leader, Mike Mansfield of Montana, said he had received the list of names of holdover nominees in a Sept. 10 letter from Thomas C. Korologos of the White House Congressional Liaison Office.

The President, Mr. Korologos said, reviewed the Nixon appointments and "approves and reaffirms" his own desire that they be approved during the current session of Congress.

If the Senate does not act before January, the nominations will die. President Ford did not indicate whether the nominations would be renewed after January.

Silbert's nomination has been the subject of hearing and delays stretching more than seven months.

Senator Ervin, saying he was troubled by his "Scotch-Irish conscience," has used the confirmation hearings to conduct what at times was a one-man investigation of the early days of Watergate.

Other names on the list and their nominations are as follows:

Robert L. Dupont Jr., administrator, Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

William W. Geimer, director of intergovernmental and regional relations, Federal Energy Administration.

Lyn Adams Greenwalt, director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Robert C. Gresham, commissioner, Interstate Commerce Commission.

Philip C. Habib, Assistant Secretary of State.

Richard J. O'Melia, member of Civil Aeronautics Board.

Joseph Coors and Durward W. Varner, board of directors, Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Julie P. Cobb, Norman H. Ackerman, William N. Hubbard Jr., Saunders MacLane, Grover E. Murray, Donald B. Rice Jr., L. Donald Shields and James H. Vumberge, all members of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation.

John W. Kauffman and Eddie G. Smith Jr., regents, National Library of Medicine, Public Health Service.

Henry F. Trione, board of directors, National Corporation for Housing Partnerships.