

Connally Asks Counts Be Dropped

Washington

Former Treasury Secretary John B. Connally, under indictment for bribery, conspiracy and perjury in the Watergate-linked milk fund case, asked yesterday that all charges against him be dismissed.

In a stack of legal briefs filed in U.S. District Court here, Connally's lawyers asked that all five criminal counts be dropped, or at the very least that his trial be shifted to San Antonio, Tex., just 30 miles from Connally's 9000-acre ranch.

"The defendant Connally cannot obtain a fair trial in the District of Columbia," said his lawyers.

Connally, a former three-term Democratic governor of Texas, who became Richard Nixon's second treasury secretary and later switched to the Republican party, was indicted July 29 in connection with dairy industry contributions to Mr. Nixon's 1972 reelection campaign.

The charges grew out of an investigation by Watergate prosecutors into allegations that an influential group of dairymen poured funds into Mr. Nixon's campaign in return for a 1971 increase in federal milk price supports.

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