

DEC 5 1974

NYTimes

First Watergate Panel Thanked and Dismissed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4 (AP)—The grand jury that indicted the Watergate burglars and then the top aides of former President Richard M. Nixon was discharged today with official thanks after two and a half years of service.

"You have considered and reported on matters that go to the very heart of our Republic," Chief United States Judge George L. Hart said in releasing the 23 jurors, 19 of whom were present at the short ceremony.

He said that the grand jury had set a record for longevity.

The jury was empaneled on June 4, 1972. Thirteen days later, five men were arrested in the Watergate office building suite of the Democratic party, and the task of investigating that break-in fell to the jury.

The disclosures that followed were so voluminous that two other grand juries were sworn in. They are still sitting.