SFChronicle

Watergate 1975 Isn't Over

Washington

The verdict in the Watergate coverup trial was the climax, but not the end, of the investigations and prosecutions be in g conducted by the Watergate special prosecutor.

Although the cases being prepared for trial or still under investigation fall short of the drama and impact of the Watergate coverup, a number of significant matters and individuals still are being scrutinized.

The areas include campaign financing, tampering with and destroying evidence, abuse of power, Richard Nixon's taxes and International Telephone and Telegraph Corp's dealings with the Nixon administration.

Among those indicted but not yet tried are former Treasury Secretary John Connally, indicted on charges of bribery and perjury; former White House aide Gordon Strachan, charged with conspiracy, obstruction of justice and making false statements in connection with the Watergate coverup, and Jack Chestnut, a campaign aide to Senator Hubert Humphrey (Dem-Minn.) during his 1970 campaign, charged with accepting an illegal campaign contribution from milk producers.

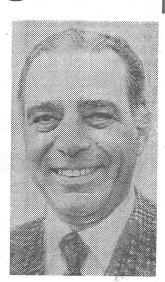
Both the Connally and Chestnut indictments are part of the unfinished business stemming from the special prosecutor's investigation of contributions from milk producers to the reelection campaign of Mr. Nixon and others.

The 1972 presidential cam-



JOHN CONNALLY

Ex-treasury chief



CHARLES REBOZO

Nixon friend



ARMAND HAMMER Campaign contributor



MAURICE STANS
Chief fund-raiser

paign of Representative Wilbur Mills (Dem-Ark.) is another activity under investigation by the special prosecutor as an outgrowth of contributions by milk producers

Another investigation that remains open involves an illegal campaign contribution from oilman Armand Hammer to the Nixon campaign in 1972.

Former Montana Governor Tim Babcock pleaded guilty on December 10 to a misdemeanor charge of aiding and abetting Hammer in the contribution. Sources in the special prosecutor's office have confirmed that Hammer is the subject of a continuing investigation.

Additionally, Mr. Nixon's

friend, Charles Redozo, still is under investigation in connection with \$100,000 in campaign contributions he received from billionaire Howard Hughes.

Maurice Stans, Mr. Nixons' chief fund - raiser in 1972, also is being investigated by the special prosecutor along with the Committee for the Re-election of the President in connection with campaign financing.

The special prosecutor also is still investigating the erasure of 18 minutes from a tape of June 20, 1972 conversation between Mr. Nixon and his White House chief of staff, H. R. Haldeman.

The conversation, which came only three days after the Watergate break-in, included a discussion of the Watergate investigation, according to Haldeman's notes of the meeting.

The tape investigation is part of a broader investigation by the special prosecutor to determine whether charges should be brought against persons other than Mr. Nixon, who is protected from prosecution by President Ford's pardon given him last September.

In addition to investigating possible obstructions of justice in connection with the tapes, the special prosecutor must also determine if federal laws involving obstruction of Congress were violated by the deletion and alteration of transcripts turned over to the House Judiciary Committee by the White House.

Although President Ford's pardon also protects Mr. Nixon from prosecution from any possible tax violations, the special prosecutor still is investigating the back-dating of a deed in 1970 in order to secure a tax break for Mr. Nixon's donation of vice presidential papers.

Edward Morgan, a former White House aide and Treasury Department official, already has pleaded guilty to his role in falsifying the deed.

The investigation of Mr. Nixon's taxes continues with indications that others besides Morgan were involved.

Washington Post