

Dean's Book Says Nixon Proposed Tax Inquiry Of Scanlan's Magazine

By ROBERT MCG. THOMAS Jr.

An attempt by former President Richard M. Nixon to have the Internal Revenue Service investigate a magazine that had angered him is reported by John W. Dean in his new book "Blind Ambition."

According to Mr. Dean, Mr. Nixon acted after Scanlan's magazine had published a "bogus memo linking Vice President Spiro T. Agnew with a top secret plan

to cancel the 1972 election and to repeal the entire Bill of Rights."

Mr. Dean, who was counsel to President Nixon, wrote that he was first told in 1970 that the President wanted a possible lawsuit or Federal investigation of the magazine, and later, after Mr. Dean had counseled against such a course, was told that Mr. Nixon wanted the Internal Revenue Service to "conduct a field investigation on the tax front."

Mr. Dean said that he had turned the assignment over to his assistant, John J. Caulfield, who reported that such an inquiry would be fruitless because Scanlan's, then less than a year old, had not filed a tax return, but had asked the I.R.S. to "look into the owners themselves."

Mr. Dean said that he had never found

out what became of the inquiry, and Sidney E. Zion, a top editor of the magazine neither he nor other principals of the magazine had been the subject of such an investigation.

A spokesman for the I.R.S. declined to comment on the Dean allegation, saying that he was prohibited by law from discussing whether the service had investigated any American citizen for any purpose.

"I can't tell you whether anything was wrong, if I can't tell you whether we did or didn't examine these people," the spokesman said.

Mr. Zion said in a telephone interview that the episode described by Mr. Dean supported his own long standing conviction that a concerted Government effort had forced the publication into bankruptcy.

cy in 1971 after its national distributors refused to handle it.

He added that at the time he had been told "by third parties" that the distributors had "been visited by Government agents," who urged them to drop the magazine.

Council's First Act: Cut Salaries

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nev., Oct. 18

(UPI)—The newly constituted city council met for the first time last night, and the first thing members did was cut their own salaries. In an effort to save money, they cut the salary of Mayor Ray Daines from \$15,000 to \$10,000 and the salaries of Councilmen Cynthia Baumann and Tom Brown from \$10,000 to \$6,000. The new council replaces one that was deposed in a recall election.