

Impeachment Panel Staffers Surfacing Through Secrecy

By Richard L. Lyons
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The House Judiciary Committee's presidential impeachment inquiry has begun in such deep secrecy that even the names of most staff members have not been made public, though some are beginning to surface.

Officially announced have been the two top staff appointments: John Doar, a Republican who was a top civil rights official in the Kennedy administration, and Albert Jenner, the Republican members' counsel, a highly regarded Chicago trial lawyer with a long record of public service assignments.

Others known to be at work in sealed-off offices in the Congressional Hotel behind the House office buildings, assembling data on Watergate and other matters that could bear on impeachment, include:

- Richard L. Cates, 47, Madison, Wis., trial lawyer, a Democrat who served a term in the state legislature and who, according to the staff of Madison's liberal congressman, Robert Kastenmeier, was eager to "come to Washington to do something for his country." Ten years ago Cates headed an investigation of police corruption in Milwaukee. More recently he headed an antiwar committee of lawyers in Madison and helped set up hearing procedures for University of Wisconsin students accused of antiwar disruptions.

- Sam Garrison, 32, Republican, former commonwealth's attorney (chief prosecutor) of Roanoke, Va., who joined the Judiciary Committee staff nearly three years ago when Roanoke's former congressman, Republican Richard Poff,

was a senior member of the committee.

Garrison left the committee to work in the Capitol office of former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, who resigned last October and pleaded no contest to a charge of income tax evasion. Garrison was the top Republican staff member until Jenner was named last Monday.

- John E. Kennahan, 49, Republican commonwealth's attorney of Alexandria for four years until defeated last November for a second term.

In addition, Karl Price, 59, a leading tax attorney here and a former Rhodes scholar, reportedly will serve as an adviser to the committee staff on matters dealing with the President's personal finances, such as tax deductions for donation of his vice presidential papers and the gain realized from sale of part of his San Clemente property.

Doar has said he plans to assemble a staff of about 30 lawyers. About half a dozen from the committee's regular staff are helping with the early research, as are investigators from the General Accounting Office.

An assistant to committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino (D-N.J.) said the names and backgrounds of staff attorneys hired to date will be made public in about a week.

One of the most important questions for members to decide is what constitutes an impeachable offense. Jenner, on whose advice Republicans probably will rely heavily, has said "the sensible view" of what is an impeachable offense will fall somewhere between the view that "the President must be guilty of something

on the edge of an indictable offense, and Vice President Ford's view that impeachment can mean anything the House decides it means." Ford voiced that view four years ago when trying to impeach Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.