

One Count Against Reinecke Dropped

Washington

A federal judge here dismissed one of the three perjury counts against California Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke yesterday.

Reinecke is scheduled to go to trial Monday on the other two counts.

U.S. District Judge Barrington Parker dismissed a count that charged Reinecke with lying to a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing when he said he first discussed the possibility of bringing the 1972 Republican National Convention to San Diego on April 27 of that year.

The indictment charged that discussion of the plan had actually begun several months earlier.

Government attorneys had said in papers filed in connection with the case that the first person Rein-



1P Wirephoto

LT. GOV. REINECKE A grin in Sacramento

ecke had spoken to about bringing the convention to San Diego was H. R., Halde-

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man, a former top aide to President Nixon.

The office of special prosecutor Leon Jaworski said yesterday it agreed to drop the one count because it would be necessary to call Haldeman as a witness if it were pressed, and Haldeman himself is scheduled to go on trial in a Watergate-connected case in September.

The othe counts against Reinecke charge that he lied when he said he had no way of knowing whether former Attorney General John M. Mitchell knew of a financial commitment by International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. to the convention prior to July 31, 1971, and when he said he had not discussed

the convention with Mitchell until after an antitrust suit against ITT had been settled.

In Sacramento yesterday, Reinecke said he was "obviously pleased" by Judge Parker's action.

"I think this is just one more demonstration of what I've been saying all along, that this whole thing is politically inspired."

As to the prosecution's apparent reluctance to call Haldeman as a witness, Reinecke said: "I'm perfectly willing to have him in court.

"He's available. If they wanted him, they could subpoena him. I think this is their way of saying We don't have the case we thought we had."

Our Correspondent