

Ehrlichman

To Call 80

Witnesses

Washington

John D. Ehrlichman, one of six defendants in the Watergate coverup trial, said yesterday that he plans to call 80 witnesses, including Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig.

Attorneys for the former White House assistant said they also will call James D. St. Clair, an attorney who represented former President Nixon, and former White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler.

Meanwhile, special prosecutor Leon Jaworski released his own list of 44 witnesses for the trial scheduled to begin next Tuesday. Among them are former FBI Director, L. Patrick Gray and the foreman of the grand jury which indicted the coverup defendants, Vladimir Pregelj.

Both Jaworski and Ehrlichman have subpoenaed Mr. Nixon to testify.

The growing list of prosecution and defense witnesses makes it clear the lengthy trial will be a replay of much of the Senate Watergate committee hearings more than a year ago have been called, as well as others who did not testify previously.

Ehrlichman's witness list includes two of his codefendants, former White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman and former Haldeman aide Gordon Strachan.

While U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica summoned defense and prosecution lawyers for a final pre-trial meeting yesterday, one important tapes issue remained unresolved.

Defense lawyers are contesting the accuracy of transcripts of 33 taped presidential conversations as prepared by the special prosecutor's office. Sirica set a hearing on that for Monday, only a day before jury selection is to begin.

Sirica said he would decide at the end of the hearing whether the transcripts may be used in the trial.

Another question is the admissibility of the White House tapes themselves. Mr. Nixon, now hospitalized in California, is needed by the prosecutors to verify that the tapes are an accurate record of his conversations.

An expected request from Nixon attorney Herbert J. Miller that the former President not be required to testify because of his health has yet to be placed before Sirica. Miller attended part of the meeting with defense and prosecution lawyers yesterday but declined to say why.

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