

Around the Nation

Ehrlichman Told to Start Term in 'Plumbers' Case

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7 (AP)—John D. Ehrlichman, once the chief adviser on domestic affairs to President Nixon, was ordered today to begin serving a 20-month prison sentence on Sept. 17 for his role in break-ins carried out by the so-called White House "plumbers."

Federal District Judge Gerhard A. Gessell ordered Mr. Ehrlichman to report to the Federal prison at Safford, Ariz., on or before that date.

Mr. Ehrlichman has been free on a personal recognizance bond since July 12, 1974, when he was convicted of violating the civil rights of Dr. Lewis Fielding, a psychiatrist who had been treating Daniel Ellsberg the reported source for the Pentagon Papers, a history of the United States involvement in the Vietnam war that was leaked to the press in 1971.

The prosecution in the plumbers case contended that Mr. Ehrlichman, among others, was connected with a burglary of Dr. Fielding's office. Mr. Ehrlichman lost his appeal of the plumbers conviction on May 17. His lawyers have asked the appeals court to allow him to remain free while case is carried to the Supreme Court. If the appeals court agrees, Judge Gessell's order would be overridden and Ehrlichman would be permitted to stay out of prison, at least temporarily.

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