

SFChronicle 20 Oct 72
Report That
Kleindienst
May Be Out

VIX AD

20 OCT 72

Washington

Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst may be dropped from the cabinet if President Nixon is re-elected, according to high

ranked sources.

Despite the ~~despite the~~ president's frequent expressions of confidence in Mr. Kleindienst, the sources said, Mr. Nixon is being pressed by some of his closest advisers to replace him with a lawyer who has had no connection with the justice department during the past four years.

The removal of Kleindienst would be part of an effort "to change the whole image of the justice department" after the presidential election, sources said.

They said there is widespread feeling at the White House that public confidence in the department has reached a new low.

Some presidential advisers apparently feel that Kleindienst never overcame the effects of his marathon confirmation hearings last spring, which gave wide circulation to charges of political interference in the operations of the justice department.

Washington Post Service.