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DOMESTIC COUNCIL GETS WIDER POWER

Erlichman Leaves Post for
Added Responsibilities

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 14—

President Nixon announced today that he was giving his Domestic Council expanded authority and appointing a new executive director to free John D. Ehrlichman, his chief domestic affairs adviser, to take on "additional responsibilities" for the President.

Mr. Nixon's executive order, transferring the operations of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations to the Domestic Council, was made public today by the White House press secretary, Ronald L. Ziegler.

Mr. Ziegler also announced the resignations of six Labor Department officials and the retention of William O. Eberle as the United States' chief international trade negotiator.

The new executive director of the council, replacing Mr. Ehrlichman, will be Kenneth R. Cole Jr., 44 years old, who has been Mr. Ehrlichman's deputy. The move, Mr. Ziegler said, is designed to relieve Mr. Ehrlichman of the task of supervising the council's day-to-day activities.

"The President," Mr. Ziegler said, "wants John Ehrlichman to be available as assistant to the President for additional responsibilities beyond being the President's chief domestic adviser."

'Point of Contact'

In assuming the operations of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations, the council will "act as my principal point of contact with the executive and legislative officials of state and local government," Mr. Nixon wrote in his order, and will provide state and local officials "guaranteed access to the highest offices of the Federal Government" as well as encouraging "closer cooperation between the various Federal agencies and their state and local counterparts."

The order removes Vice President Agnew from his supervisory position over the Office of Intergovernmental Policy, but Mr. Ziegler said the action was taken on Mr. Agnew's recommendation.

The announcement of Mr. Eberle's retention as the chief negotiator in international discussions aimed at lowering tariff and other trade barriers seemed to ensure a continuity of United States policy in this area. Mr. Eberle's official title is Special Representative for Trade Negotiations; he has held the position, which carries the rank of Ambassador, since November, 1971.

Also staying on, Mr. Ziegler announced, are Mr. Eberle's two deputies, William R. Pearce and Harald B. Malmgren.

The top Labor Department aides who will be leaving their posts are Laurence H. Silberman, Under Secretary of Labor; Malcolm R. Lovell Jr., Assistant Secretary for Manpower; Richard J. Grunewald, Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards; George C. Guenther, Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health; Elizabeth D. Koontz, Director of the Women's Bureau, and Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner of Labor Statistics.

Mr. Silberman "has been asked to accept another important post in the Administration," Mr. Ziegler said, adding that the others were returning to private life.

It was announced that those labor aides remaining in the second term are Michael H. Moskow, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Evaluation and Research; Richard F. Schulbert, Solicitor; W. J. Usery Jr., Assistant Secretary for Labor-Management Relations, and Thomas S. Kleppe, Administrator of the Small Business Administration.