Haldeman's Role Viewed As Reduced by Watergate

NYTimes By JOHN HERBERS APR 26 1973

Special to The New York Times WASHINGTON, April 25 - |He said that the aides involved H. R. Haldeman, who once ran -Henry A. Kissinger, George the Nixon White House with P. Shultz, John D. Ehrlichman, stern efficiency, appeared today Roy L. Ash and others felt to have lost much of his power that their time could be better as reports mounted that a spent in meetings with their shake-up in the staff, including subordinates. resignations, was being planned. Other sources,

Mr. Haldeman has been re- pointed out that the breakoff ported to be under investiga- of what had become an instition by the grand jury looking tution at the White House, into the burglary and bugging with Mr. Haldeman in charge, of Democratic headquarters in coincided with the more recent the Watergate building last explosive developments in the summer and in alleged attempts Watergate case and indicated to protect some who might strongly that Watergate was have played a role in the crime. involved. He has hired a lawyer to defend him in the case.

House press secretary, dis-were continuing reports from closed under questioning that White House sources that there the regular morning meetings would be major changes. of top aides that Mr. Haldeman

There was no clear indication

man had long been considered

Mr. Ziegler denied that this the second most influential man development had been connectэđ

Ronald L. Ziegler, the White might be forthcoming, but there today as to when staff changes

had conducted for more than who regulated the flow of peo-As chief of staff and the man four years were broken off about three weeks ago and had president's office, Mr. Halde-

with the Watergate case. Continued on Page 34, Column 4

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in the White House.

White House sources, has been acting as Mr. Nixon's counsel and adviser in the Watergate matter during the last few days. Another aide who has en-tered the picture as enjoying he was asked if some staff. Mr. Nixon's confidence in the Watergate matter during the last few days is Patrick J. Buchanan, special consultant to the President, who spent a day and a half with Mr. Nixon in Key Biscayne last weekend. Mr. Haldeman, for the first time anyone could remember, did not make the trip. Mr. Nixon thus seemed to be staff. In Marshfield, Wis., where

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Cently, has been turning not toHow creat, order, order

in the White House. There were other indications that Mr. Haldeman's power was rapidly declining. President Nixon, in his han-dling of the Watergate case re-cently, has been turning not to Mr. Haldeman but to Leonard Mr. Haldeman but to L



United Press International Ronald L. Ziegler at news session at White House.