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Richardson, Colson Are Old Friends

Washington

President Nixon's new chief Watergate investigator, Elliot L. Richardson, is a personal friend of one of the figures in the case, Charles W. Colson.

Colson, through his secretary, said yesterday that the two have been friends since about 1956. Both worked for the same man, former Senator Leverett Saltonstall (Rep-Mass.) at different times during the 1950s.

Repeated attempts to

question Richardson on the matter were turned aside by his spokesmen.

A Pentagon spokesman said Richardson is "really not going to have any comment on anything until he goes before his confirmation hearings. It is a matter of record, of course, that Mr. Colson worked for Senator Saltonstall as did Secretary Richardson."

The confirmation hearings are scheduled to begin Wednesday.

Associated Press
