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# Watergate Quiz Boss Choice Set

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WASHINGTON — (AP) — Attorney General-designate Elliot L. Richardson reportedly will name an independent Watergate prosecutor by the time his confirmation hearings begin next Wednesday.

Senate sources said Richardson made that pledge to a gathering of Republican senators at the Capitol after they told him unanimously they want the Watergate investigation taken entirely out of the executive branch.

Richardson's choice for the job was not made known, but speculation today centers on Philadelphia lawyer William T. Coleman, a former member of the now defunct Price Commission. Coleman declined comment when asked if he had been offered the position.

## Testify

As one group of senators after another demanded a special prosecutor, two recently resigned White House aides testified before a federal grand jury about Watergate.

John D. Ehrlichman, former chief domestic adviser, and H. R. Haldeman, former White House chief of staff, said they had answered all questions and had not sought refuge in the Fifth Amendment.

Their attorney, J. W. Wilson, said that even if his clients are indicted, "they

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have no fear of being convicted."

Senators who were at the meeting with Richardson said that he made no commitments about naming a special prosecutor. Richardson told newsmen, "I have the whole question under deliberation."

## Pressure

Pressure has been intense for Richardson to turn the probe over to an outsider since President Nixon gave him that option Monday night in the speech announcing he had nominated Richardson to be Attorney General and had placed him in charge of the Watergate case.

Thirty Democratic senators wrote Richardson that they assumed he would promptly name a special prosecutor. They gave him a list of qualifications and powers they said his choice should possess.

Among them were absolute freedom from official interference, and complete authority to subpoena witnesses and evidence and to grant immunity from prosecution in order to obtain testimony.

A clear majority of the Judiciary Committee which must pass on the Richardson nomination to be Attorney General is now on record as favoring an independent prosecutor.

## Won't Approve

One member, Sen. John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) said he

will not vote to confirm Richardson if he declines to name one.

These were other Watergate developments:

Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), introduced reform legislation aimed at preventing future Watergate-type political scandals. It provides heavy fines and jail terms for violations.

Egil "Bud" Krogh was reported reliably to be preparing a complete account of his involvement with Watergate conspirators G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt in their alleged burglary of the office of the psychiatrist of Daniel Ellsberg. Ellsberg is on trial in Los Angeles for leaking the Pentagon Papers to newsmen.

Krogh went on leave of absence Wednesday from his \$42,500 job as undersecretary of transportation. He supervised a crew set up in July 1971 to probe the leak

of the Pentagon's top-secret history of U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

The Washington Star-News reported federal prosecutors are seriously considering granting immunity from prosecution to former White House counsel John W. Dean III.

It reported Dean's lawyers have been negotiating for such immunity in return for his testimony against others before the grand jury and at any trial. Dean has said he doesn't intend being made a scapegoat in the affair and is prepared to implicate others.

Robert L. Vesco, a financier accused of looting a mutual fund, was ordered arrested by a federal judge. Vesco, who contributed \$200,000 to the Nixon campaign, was said to have sought Erlichman's intervention in a Lebanese bank deal.

The Washington Post quoted federal investigators as saying Nixon's reelection committee prepaid \$5.5 million worth of anticipated campaign expenses last year to avoid reporting the expenditures under the new disclosure law. The Nixon campaign is said to have had at least \$10 million on hand when the law became effective.