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No Conflict

Connally Vows To Quit Boards

Houston

John B. Connally, named Thursday as a special adviser to President Nixon, said yesterday he would take a leave of absence from his Houston law firm as long as he holds the job.

Connally also said in a statement telephoned to newsmen by his secretary that he was resigning from all corporate boards on which he served.

Connally is a member of the law firm of Vincent, Elkins, Searls, Connally and Smith.

Earlier yesterday in Washington, the White House had said "great care will be taken to avoid" any conflict of interest when President Nixon seeks Connally's advice on Watergate matters.

The question came up at a White House briefing because Connally's law firm represents a corporation now under investigation by a grand jury because \$89,000 in contributions it made to Mr. Nixon's 1972 campaign has been traced to one of four men who pleaded guilty to the Watergate break-in. The firm is Gulf Resources and Chemical Corp.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said it was obvious the "White House believes it is clear Governor Connally has behaved with absolute propriety" in his private legal work.

Connally will serve as a special domestic and foreign affairs adviser to Mr. Nixon on a nonpaid, part-time basis.

Associated Press