

## Magazine Reports

# Dean Contradicts Nixon Statement

## Watergate Probe Denied

Associated Press

New York

Newsweek magazine yesterday quoted former White House counsel John Dean III as saying that President Nixon had never asked him for a report on the Watergate case and that he had never written one — despite Mr. Nixon's reassurances to the American people.

Dean said in an interview that he was "flabbergasted" at being quoted by the President in a news conference, last August 29, as saying that no current White House employees were involved in the case, Newsweek said.

Time magazine published a similar story yesterday, quoting a close associate of Dean as saying that Dean did not conduct an investigation of the Watergate case for the President.

Newsweek quoted Dean as saying:

"The first I heard of the 'Dean report' was . . . in my hotel room on August 29. I was flabbergasted . . . I was getting ready to leave my room when the news broadcast came up. Here was the President of the United States reassuring the American people on the basis of a report that didn't exist."

### CONFESSION

Time reported that Dean

was called into the President's office last March, given two papers and asked to sign them. One was a virtual confession that Dean alone in the White House had concealed facts in the case and the other was his resignation, Time said.

Time quoted this dialogue:

"What about Ehrlichman and Haldeman?" Dean asked the President.

"They have given verbal

See Back Page

From Page 1

assurance (that they were not part of a coverup)," Mr. Nixon replied.

Dean refused to sign so the President told him to draft his own letter of resignation, Time said.

Dean, balking, returned to Mr. Nixon's office later and was told by the President that the counsel must "shoulder the burden" and that there would be no full "airing," Time continued.

Newsweek said that during its interview Dean said of his role in the White House, "I was used as a fire fighter."

An instance of this was after the exposure of a 1971 White House-ordered FBI investigation of CBS newsmen Daniel Schorr, Dean said.

The White House claimed at the time that Schorr was being investigated for a possible government post.

"That was typical of the type of razzle-dazzle they are able to put together. I'm not sure how many people believed that official story, but I'm certain that Daniel Schorr does not," Newsweek quoted Dean as saying.