

COX IS EXPECTED TO PICK LAWYERS

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Prosecutor May Name Aides
on Watergate This Week

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WASHINGTON, May 28—Archibald Cox, special prosecutor in the Watergate case, is expected to name this week top level staff lawyers for his wide-ranging investigation.

Sources close to the special prosecutor said today that one to three men, with backgrounds in investigations and prosecutions, would be named in the next few days. In addition, Mr. Cox's two temporary assistants, Phillip E. Heymann and James Vorenberg, are to be officially sworn in.

Mr. Cox, who was given the Watergate assignment last Friday by Attorney General Elliott L. Richardson went to the Memorial Day weekend to the Boston area, where sources said he worked on assembling his staff and organizing for the job ahead.

Other developments in the Watergate affair included the following:

¶ Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr. chairman of the Senate committee looking into the Watergate case said in a telephone interview with United Press International that the committee would not hear from former White House officials until about mid-June, when it expects to complete the questioning of staff members of President Nixon's re-election committee.

¶ Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Democrat of Maine, speaking in Hyde Park, N. Y., accused President Nixon of "obsessive secrecy" and "systematic deception."

"National security became the excuse for systematic deception," the unsuccessful contender for the 1972 Democratic Presidential nomination said. They could not tell what they thought was the truth, so they began to lie."

There was no indication whom Mr. Cox might choose for the top staff lawyers. Mr. Heymann and Mr. Vorenberg, both professors at Harvard law school, are to serve as assistants.

Informed sources estimated that as many as 600 letters had poured in to the special prosecutor from lawyers around the nation. They either volunteered to help or recommended others.

Even before he took the job last week, Mr. Cox was forced to put down a threatened revolt by the three prosecutors who have handled the Watergate case since it began almost a year ago. All were ready to quit the job last

week, according to their superior, Harold H. Titus Jr., the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

In a statement last week, Mr. Titus, who had remained in the background of the case, said that one key figure had entered a guilty plea in exchange for his testimony and, presumably, a light sentence, that more such negotiations, were under way and that indictments focussing on obstruction of justice could be expected in 60 to 90 days.

Such statements and prosecution moves are unusual in a case still under investigation. The "key figure" was quickly identified by other Government sources as Jeb Stuart Magruder, who was second in command at the Committee for the Re-election of the President last fall.

Request for Consultation

Mr. Cox's only reply has been a letter asking the prosecution to carry on until he can familiarize himself with the Watergate case and that he be consulted before any decisions are made.

The threat to quit was interpreted as a reflection of wounded pride on the part of the prosecutors and as a plan to force Mr. Cox either to keep them on the job or dismiss them.

Mr. Cox, a former Harvard law professor and labor negotiator, handled it with a compromise and no long-range promises. Informed sources said today he would name one of his staff to work with the prosecutors, Earl J. Silbert, Seymour Glanzer and Donald E. Campbell.

Other jobs to be done include finding permanent quarters for the special prosecution in Washington and building up files in the case.

Mr. Cox is temporarily working out of the Justice Department Building on Constitution Avenue.

Alch Takes Lie Test

CHICAGO, (UPI)—The president of a polygraph institute said yesterday that he had administered lie detector tests to attorney Gerald Alch, who testified last week before the special Senate committee on Watergate, and to his law partner, F. Lee Bailey.

Leonard Harrelson, president of the Keeler Polygraph Institute, declined to reveal the results of the tests, but added: "If I were them, I sure as hell wouldn't worry about the results."

Mr. Harrelson confirmed that both attorneys had voluntarily taken the tests recently, but he would not say what questions were asked, when the tests were held or who commissioned them.

Mr. Alch had volunteered during the Senate Watergate hearing to take the test to support charges he made that conflicted with testimony by James W. McCord Jr., a convicted Watergate conspirator.