

'Major Watergate Indictments Urged'

Washington

The three original Watergate prosecutors recommended to special prosecutor Archibald Cox that conspiracy indictments be sought against John N. Mitchell, H. R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and John W. Dean III, CBS News reported last night.

CBS correspondent Daniel Schorr, quoting unidentified Justice Department sources, said the status report given to Cox, when the three prosecutors left their jobs last week, described the Watergate investigation as 85 per cent complete.

The report, CBS News said, does not deal with any role President Nixon might have had in the Watergate political-espionage activity and coverups.

The three assistant U.S. attorneys—Earl J. Silbert, Seymour Glanzer and Donald E. Campbell—could not be reached for comment on the report. Cox's spokesman also could not be reached.

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The Washington Star-News, quoting "informed sources," said Tuesday that Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson, Friday, ordered the three not to appear this Sunday as scheduled on the live CBS news-panel show "Face the Nation."

Mitchell, former attorney general and director of Nixon's re-election campaign, is scheduled to be the leadoff witness Tuesday when the Senate Watergate Committee resumes its public hearings. He is under indictment in New York in a case relating to a secret \$200,000 contribution to the Nixon campaign last year.

Haldeman, Mr. Nixon's chief of staff, and Ehrlichman, the chief domestic affairs adviser, resigned their White House positions April 30, the day Mr. Nixon fired Dean as his counsel.

Dean appeared for five

Back Page Col. 1

From Page 1

days last week before the Senate committee, telling it he believed the President had knowledge of the cover-up three months after the break-in at Democratic party headquarters.

CBS News said the prosecutors' report recommends offers of reduced charges for guilty pleas and cooperation for several officials described as co-conspirators, "believed to include former FBI acting director L. Patrick Gray III and former White House aide Gordon Strachan."

The three original prosecutors stayed on the job after Richardson appointed Cox as special prosecutor for all Watergate-related investigations. But sources have indicated that they were kept only to bring Cox up to date.

Last Friday Cox accepted their resignations.

The broadcast account continued, "The report suggests this theory of the conspiracy: that the coverup . . . had two main motivations — one, fear that disclosure of higher-ups would cast a shadow over President Nixon and hurt his chances for re-election, and, two, fear that it would open the trail to previous illegal acts involving G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt," two of the convicted break-in conspirators.

Associated Press