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**COX OFFICE PLANS  
TO PRESS INQUIRY**

**Spokesman Says Staff Has  
No Formal Notification**

**By ANTHONY RIPLEY**  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—The Watergate special prosecution force, with its leader, Archibald Cox, dismissed yesterday by Presidential edict, plans to continue its investigation, a spokesman said today.

James Doyle, special assistant for public affairs, said at a news conference today that, although the 81-member staff had been told that it would be "folded into" the Justice Department, "much as you would fold eggs into a cake," it had received no formal notification of its future course.

He said that at a staff meeting late last night, Henry S. Ruth Jr., deputy special prose-

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# Cox Office Plans to Maintain Inquiry

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cutor, "asked if anyone would not be in Tuesday. Nobody raised hands."

"Very serious criminal prosecution is under way," Mr. Doyle added. "The mood of the staff is to continue."

He reported that Federal Bureau of Investigation agents who were guarding the special prosecutor's office had been replaced by United States marshals. The marshals are insisting that no papers relating to the investigation can be taken out of the offices in downtown Washington, he added.

Mr. Doyle said he did not know how that might affect the presentation of evidence to the two grand juries looking into the Watergate scandals.

More meetings are expected this week. The staff plans to meet again tomorrow at its offices and on Tuesday with Acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork.

Mr. Nixon, in his letter to Mr. Bork yesterday, wrote that he was to "take all steps necessary to return to the Department of Justice the functions

now being performed by the Watergate special prosecution force."

Mr. Doyle was asked how the office could continue to work if it has been abolished.

He replied by saying, "if they announce the sky is green and you look up and the sky is blue. Then he paused and added: "I assume to abolish our agency takes some time."

## Memos Taken Home

Mr. Doyle confirmed that leaders of task groups in the agency who were looking into various aspects of the scandals had taken home copies yesterday of memorandums outlining the status of the case. He said all the copies would be returned Tuesday, when work resumed after the Veterans Day holiday tomorrow.

One staff member said: "Everyone wants to keep an open mind. We all want to go [to the meeting Tuesday with Mr. Bork] to listen to what he has to say."

The same staff member, who asked not to be identified, said most members would be willing to go on with the investigation

if it was "meaningful" and "effective."

To meet such definitions, he said, the prosecutors must be able to get all the necessary evidence, a trail that leads to the disputed Presidential tape recordings. Mr. Cox was dismissed after refusing to go along with Mr. Nixon's compromise offer on the tapes.

Peter M. Kreindler, a member of the senior staff, said that he and "all my associates" would not "participate in a charade."

Mr. Doyle said Mr. Cox would be in the office early Tuesday morning "to say goodbye to the staff."

Mr. Doyle made it clear that he would continue to manage relations with the press as he has in the past without prior clearance from information officials in the Department of Justice.

"I'm going to continue as long as those people downstairs [the special prosecutor's force] need me, and it's tenable," he said.

Asked if there were any indications of anyone else being dismissed Mr. Doyle said the staff had been "hearing footsteps" behind them all week.

"One of them turned out to be real," he added.