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Record 71,000

Telegrams Sent To Washington

SF Chronicle
Washington

Western Union reported yesterday that a record 71,000 telegrams were received in its Washington office about the firing of Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox in the first 36 hours after his dismissal Saturday under President Nixon's order.

A company spokesman, Jim Foster, said that as of midmorning yesterday, 50,000 of the messages had been delivered to Capitol Hill, 6000 to the White House and a backlog of 15,000 was being processed.

The White House was asked for a rundown on telegrams it has received. Aides said it would take time to gather the information.

United Press