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Cox on TV, Tells of His

Washington

Archibald Cox said yesterday that at the time he was fired as Watergate prosecutor, his staff was looking into large political contributions—"chiefly in cash"—raised by the White House staff in 1970.

Cox said his special prosecution force, which has now been transferred to the Justice Department by President Nixon's order, was also investigating "possible abuses" of the term national security and of other government agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service.

Cox, fired by Mr. Nixon Saturday night as a result of their dispute over Mr. Nixon's secret Watergate tapes, was interviewed by Walter Cronkite on the CBS Evening News.

Asked what investigations he had been pursuing that might have been worrying the White House, said he couldn't answer with "complete assurance."

But he said, among other things, "inquiries were being pushed into the raising of campaign funds, especially very large funds raised in conjunction with the White

Friedan Meets Pope

Vatican City

Betty Friedan met Pope Paul VI yesterday in the pontiff's first audience with a U.S. feminist leader.

She gave the Pope a medal denoting male-female equality, and he thanked her "for your work with women."

Associated Press

House staff in 1970—raised, I think, chiefly in cash."

He declined to comment on reports that his staff also had been investigating the possible diversion of campaign contributions to a private investment trust fund for the President.

"That wouldn't be proper for a former prosecutor to go into," Cox said.

Cox declined to say whether he had evidence sufficient to compel Congress to impeach Mr. Nixon. But he said he saw "significance" in the willingness of Mr. Nixon's chief accuser, ex-White House counsel John W. Dean III, to face perjury charges.

Last Probe

Dean pleaded guilty last Friday to a single count of conspiracy to obstruct justice in the Watergate cover-up, specifically stating in a formal agreement with Cox that he realizes he could be indicted for perjury in the future if his testimony against Mr. Nixon is shown

to be false.

Cox said he saw that as "pretty convincing evidence" that Dean believes his testimony "cannot be proved untrue" once the evidence on the tapes is in.

United Press