

# Buzhardt Still in Charge Of Watergate, After All

Washington

The White House said yesterday that J. Fred Buzhardt Jr. remains in charge of the Watergate defense although changes are being made in the counsel's office.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren first said that Buzhardt "still is working" in the office, but at the end of his briefing, after receiving a written note, he apologized and said that Buzhardt is in charge.

Warren said he had been away from the White House Thursday because of illness and that he had made a mistake in suggesting that Buzhardt was not head of the Watergate defense.

Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, briefing newsmen Thursday in Warren's absence, had made a lukewarm appraisal of Buzhardt and raised doubts that he continued to have the President's full confidence.

Warren declined to say who sent the note directing him to correct the impression he had left that Buzhardt was no longer in charge of the President's legal defense. It was assumed that it came from Ziegler,

who has facilities in his office for listening to the briefing room questions and answers.

Warren also used the briefing to denounce Rufus Edmisten, deputy chief counsel of the Senate Watergate committee, who had told a college audience Thursday in Lynchburg, Va., that the White House re-recorded on one tape the subpoenaed tapes.

Warren denied that any new recordings were made and said that when Mr. Nixon listened to the original tapes he used earphones. With earphones, the taping system still in use at the time could not have picked up the playing of the tapes.

Edmisten was "winging it or hadn't done his homework," Warren said. "To say there is a tape of all the President listened to is misleading."

Told of Warren's comment, Edmisten said: "I think I had misinformation that there was a tape made of the tapes the President had listened to. If I made a mistake, I'm sorry."

Warren said Leonard Garmet, acting counsel to the

President, would no longer work directly on Watergate matters but on general White House legal work.

Warren supplied the following list of staff in the counsel's office:

Leonard Garmet, acting counsel; J. Fred Buzhardt, Jr., special counsel; Fred P. Fielding, deputy counsel; and the following staff assistants: Dudley Chapman, Douglas M. Parker, Robert Andrews, Richard Alan Hauser, Kenneth Gregory Haynes and George Paul Williams.

Listed as consultants, in addition to Wright, were Samuel J. Powers Jr., and Thomas P. Marinis Jr.

"The following persons have assisted the White House counsel's office periodically, without compensation," the statement said: H. Chapman Rose, Kenneth W. Gemmill and John J. Sullivan.

Warren said that Sullivan had volunteered to help "beef up" the legal staff and would work in the administrative way in recruiting legal talent. He is resigning from the Illinois court of appeals, to which he was ap-



AP Wirephotos

J. FRED BUZHARDT  
Other changes

pointed in April by the State Supreme Court, to assist the president.

Washington Post