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Judge in California Delays
Hearing on Ehrlichman Plea

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 14 (UPI)—A county judge delayed today until Feb. 25 a hearing on whether burglary charges should be dropped against John D. Ehrlichman, former chief White House domestic adviser, and others in connection with the 1971 break in at the office of Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist on the ground that they were acting as Federal "police officers."

Judge Gordon Ringer of Superior Court also postponed until Jan. 29 a decision on whether another former White House aide, David R. Young Jr., should have charges against him dropped on the ground that the grand jury indictment had been improperly prepared.

Attorneys for Mr. Ehrlichman, Mr. Young and a third defendant, G. Gordon Liddy, are prepared to argue that the White House "plumbers Squad" was acting under orders of President Nixon to investigate security leaks when the files of Dr. Lewis Fielding were rifled. The defense contends that they were therefore acting in a police capacity.

Information was sought about Dr. Ellsberg in connection with the release of the Pentagon Papers, a secret Government study of the United States involvement in Vietnam.