

Says Love Was Outsider

SEATTLE, Jan. 17 (AP)—John D. Ehrlichman says former presidential energy adviser John A. Love failed in the job because he was a White House outsider who could not get his hands on Washington's levers of power.

Love, who resigned as governor of Colorado to take the post last June, was in an almost impossible position," Ehrlichman said. "He just didn't have the levers available to him." Love left the job Dec. 3.

In a subsequent story in the Denver Post, Love was quoted as saying, "To be honest, it's been difficult to try to do anything meaningful and even to get the attention of the President."

Ehrlichman, who resigned as President Nixon's top domestic affairs adviser last April, said the Nixon administration's efforts to deal with the energy crisis "lay pretty flat from March until about June."

Ehrlichman said William E. Simon, the head of the new Federal Energy Office, had the levers of power when he took over. Simon had been a high-ranking Treasury Department official.

Ehrlichman also commented briefly on the departure from the Nixon administration of Melvin R. Laird. Laird, a former Wisconsin congressman and secretary of defense, replaced Ehrlichman as domestic affairs adviser last June and has resigned effective Feb. 1.

Ehrlichman predicted last summer that Laird would be effective in the job, especially in dealing with Congress. "But evidently not . . ." Ehrlichman said in the interview. "It's pretty obvious to me that he was not successful . . . So he's moved on. And I'm sure that was his option."