

# State Bar Delays Move On Ehrlichman, Kalmbach

By Michael Taylor

In an effort to gather "as much information as possible" about two former top aides of President Nixon, the State Bar has temporarily delayed disciplinary proceedings against the two men it was learned yesterday.

But sources branded as "an outright lie" reports that a deal had been arranged between Bar officials and Special Watergate Prosecutor Leon Jaworski, in which disciplinary action against Mr. Nixon's former chief domestic adviser, John Ehrlichman and the President's former personal attorney, Herbert Kalmbach, would be indefinitely delayed in return for their cooperation with Jaworski's investigation of Watergate.

Instead, sources told The

Chronicle, the Bar's Board of Governors—hampered by a relatively small investigative staff and a paucity of funds—has to rely quite heavily on information produced by the much larger staff of Jaworski as well as the Senate Watergate Committee.

"Look, it's a question of the Washington people saying 'I'll give you the stuff you need if you just don't interfere with my case until I'm finished,'" one source said.

Ehrlichman, Kalmbach and four other California lawyers, including Mr. Nixon, have been subjects of investigation by the Bar for more than a year.

One of the lawyers, convicted political saboteur Donald Segretti, faces a disbarment trial in June,

sources said.

The State Bar has also added the name of Los Angeles lawyer Frank DeMarco Jr. to its list of Watergate-connected lawyers under investigation, it was learned.

DeMarco, who prepared the tax returns on which the President owed almost half a million dollars, has denied any wrongdoing on his part.

Soures said yesterday that the disciplinary investigations of DeMarco, former White House aide Gordon Strachan, and Robert Mardian, former political coordinator of the committee to Re-elect the President are continuing and that the Bar is developing its case against Ehrlichman and Kalmbach "as quickly as possible."

Several persons familiar with the Bar's operation said they were unaware of any influence reportedly exerted on the Board of governors by Ehrlichman's attorney, Joe Ball, of Los Angeles, a law partner of former Governor Edmund G. Brown.

"Actually, if pressure like that was applied to the Bar, it would probably have the reverse effect — it would make the Bar lean even further on Ehrlichman."