Nixon Critic 'Has Resigned'

Washington SFChronicle

Donald E. Santarelli, who has been sharply critical of President Nixon's handling of the Watergate scandal, reportedly has resigned as head of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, congressional sources said yesterday.

Santarelli's office refused to confirm or deny the report.

The 36-year - old official said in a recent interview with the Associated Press that the executive branch of government is "just a nastier place to be these days" because of Watergate.

Santarelli said in the interview that he was running his \$900 million agency almost completely on his own because "there is nobody to tell me no, and there is nobody to can me."

In an interview published this weekend, the Philadelphia Inquirer's Today maga-



AP Wirephoto
DONALD SANTARELLI
'A nastier place'

zine quoted Santarelli as saying in April: "There is no White House, There is no White House any more."

"It pains me, but I think he (Mr. Nixon) should resign," the Inquirer quoted Santarelli as saying. "After all, you've got the cleanest vice president in history over there, his whole life's been gone over by every agency imaginable, he's got the USDA Prime stamped on every haunch."

Associated Press