

# Magruder on Haldeman, Ehrlichman

Washington

Jeb S. Magruder says President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman may have been trying to seem less knowledgeable than they really were when they said in a taped White House conversation that Magruder should testify before the Watergate prosecutors.

The former White House aide, who is in jail for his part in the Watergate cover-up, said in a taped TV interview with Barbara Walters of the NBC "Today" show that he had agreed three or four days earlier to make such an appearance and that the President and his two top aides knew about it.

Part of the interview was broadcast last night and the remainder is being shown this morning.

"There is a complete gap there which would indicate either lack of information on their part or that they were trying to put something on the tape themselves for their

own uses," Magruder said in the interview.

"I had already agreed to cooperate with the prosecutors and they were basically quite aware of that — the fact was that I had already told them in general terms that I knew that I could not continue this charade and that I knew that the only answer would be for me to basically go down and cooperate with the prosecution."

*United Press*