

SPC
7-12-74

Ehrlichman Talks of Nixon Future

Seattle

Richard Nixon, driven from the presidency by the Watergate scandal, will not become a recluse, his former top domestic adviser predicted yesterday.

Nixon has "by no means thrown in the towel on his career or his life or his expectations of being a productive and constructive person in the future," John D. Ehrlichman said in an interview on the front porch of his home on Lake Washington.

"I would be very much surprised if he just took up kite making or surf fishing and let the world find its way."

Ehrlichman said Mr. Nixon will probably do some writing and perhaps eventually fill a "senior statesman" role of some sort.

Ehrlichman, who resigned his White House post in April, 1973, in the wake of the Watergate scandal, said Mr. Nixon "must surely be very unhappy. He's had a very personal defeat in Washington in a political sense, and he's an individual who doesn't like to lose.

"It's been my experience that losing does not put him out of business, so to speak, doesn't down him for long. But certainly I'm sure he's what you would call a bad loser."

The 49-year-old Ehrlichman, who is awaiting trial on the Watergate coverup case and is appealing a conviction in the Ellsberg break-in case, said he does not think Mr. Nixon should be impeached or prosecuted in the Watergate affair.

"I just don't see that that would serve any constructive or useful purpose at all," Ehrlichman said.

Associated Press