SPC 9/3/11

Ehrlichman Temporarily Disbarred

The California Supreme Court suspended John D. Ehrlichman, a top White House aide to former President Nixon, from the practice of law yesterday.

The suspension will be in effect pending the outcome of his appeal from a conviction for making false statements to a federal grand jury.

The Supreme Court acted under a law that calls for automatic review of the conviction of any attorney, and for disbarment in crimes involving moral turpitude. Making a false declaration to a federal grand jury was defined by the court as an offense constituting moral turpitude.

The Supreme Court noted that Ehrlichman was convicted in a conspiracy to break into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist. He faces a jail term of 20 months to five years.

Ehrlichman and H. R. Haldeman, Mr. Nixon's White House chief of staff, will go on trial with four other defendants on September 30 in the Watergate coverup case.