

Colson Asks Cut in His Prison Term

Washington

Citing former President Nixon's pardon, Charles W. Colson yesterday asked for a reduction in his prison sentence in "the interest of even-handed justice."

Colson, former special counsel and political operative for Mr. Nixon, pleaded guilty in June to obstruction of justice by spreading derogatory information about Pentagon papers defendant Daniel Ellsberg. He was given a \$5000 fine and a one-to-three year sentence, and now is at the federal prison farm at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

"President Ford's action in pardoning former President Nixon raises serious

questions with respect to even-handed justice for former subordinates of Mr. Nixon who have been prosecuted for offenses in which he was a participant," Colson's lawyer said in a memorandum accompanying a one-sentence motion filed in U.S. District Court.

"This is particularly troubling in the case of Mr. Colson."

After Mr. Ford's full par-

don of Mr. Nixon for any Watergate-connected crimes he may have committed, Colson's lawyer asked the White House about a pardon, but the Justice Department recommended against it.

The ten-page memorandum in support of the motion also cited the death of Colson's father August 19 as a reason for a reduction. It said Colson's 73-year-old mother was "wholly depend-

ent emotionally" on her only child.

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