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# Sirica Sometimes Runs Court With a Schoolmaster's Manner

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 7— There are moments in the Watergate cover-up trial when Judge John J. Sirica seems like a schoolmaster and his courtroom like a schoolroom.

Richard Hauser, a former White House lawyer, was on the witness stand one day explaining how the White House had analyzed the conversations on President Nixon's tape recordings in preparation for complying with prosecution subpoenas for the tapes.

Richard Ben-Veniste, one of the prosecutors, had started off the questioning. John J. Wilson, lawyer for H. R. Holderman, one of the defendants, had followed with cross-examination. Mr. Ben-Veniste had followed with still more questions. At that point, the judge said he thought it was time to finish.

Mr. Wilson rose to say he had "one more question." Reluctantly, Judge Sirica let him ask it.

Ben-Veniste then rose to say that he, too, had one

more question. Judge Sirica grimaced, announcing that the questioning had to be halted. Then he relented a bit. He looked around the courtroom to the eight defense lawyers. If he allowed Mr. Ben-Veniste his question, the judge asked, "will everyone promise" not to ask any more?

"I promise!" called out William S. Frates, one of the lawyers for John D. Ehrlichman, raising his hand.

"Promise!" said William G. Hundley, representing John N. Mitchell, raising his hand.

There were a few more murmurings, and then Jacob A. Stein, the chief counsel for Kenneth Wells Parkinson, began to rise from his chair.

"I promise I won't even listen to the question," he said.

Mr. Ben-Veniste asked his question. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Frates leaped up to object. When Mr. Ben-Veniste, who had asked what might be called a leading question, appeared to accede to the objections, the witness, Mr. Hauser, was then dismissed.