

# Nixon's Orders for CIA

Washington

H. R. Haldeman testified yesterday that President Nixon "directed" that the CIA be enlisted to stall a critical early phase of the Watergate investigation because he feared it might compromise U.S. intelligence activities abroad.

Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff, was relaxed and confident as he answered questions put by his attorney, John Wilson.

He readily admitted meeting with top CIA officials on June 23, 1972 — just six days after the Watergate arrests — to pass on White House "concerns" that a full-scale FBI investigation might compromise sensitive intelligence activities abroad.

He told how Mr. Nixon expressed those concerns to him that day. Then, almost as an afterthought, he said of the President: "He gave me general instructions to follow in the meeting, which he directed me to have."

A tape of the June 23 Nixon-Haldeman meeting, played early in the trial for the jury, showed Mr. Nixon simply responding, "All right, fine," when Haldeman passed along a suggestion from John Mitchell and John Dean that the CIA be enlisted to keep the FBI from following the Watergate money chain into Mexico.

Haldeman's testimony was the first to indicate that Mr. Nixon had indeed ordered the CIA to step in.

"Did you, at the time of the CIA discussions or at any time, have any intention to obstruct the investigation by appropriate authorities into the Watergate break-in?" Wilson asked.

"No, sir," Haldeman replied.

It was the June 23 tape, which seemed to indicate Mr. Nixon's early involve-



UPI Telephoto

## Moving Day

Former Assembly Speaker Bob Moretti moved yesterday into his new home in Sacramento. Moretti, who represented the Van Nuys area while in the Legislature, has hinted he would like to head the state Resources Agency

ment in the coverup, that forced Mr. Nixon's resignation within a week after he released it in early August after suppressing it for more than two years.

Haldeman said he didn't order top CIA officials Richard Helms and Vernon Walters to block the FBI investigation because "it would not have been appropriate," but merely suggested they "review" the situation with acting FBI chief L. Patrick Gray III.

Rebutting point-by-point damaging testimony against him by earlier witnesses, Haldeman also said that:

- He never ordered any destruction of documents in the Watergate aftermath and that he cannot remember being told anything had

director Jeb Stuart Magruder of Magruder's perjury before the grand jury and the original bugging trial.

Haldeman said he never heard the phrase "Gemstone" — the code name for the covert Watergate operation — until long after the June, 1972, break-in, and did not know at the time that the Watergate break-in team had successfully planted a bug in Democratic headquarters in May, 1972.

"Whatever date it was, and whatever degree of success it did or didn't have, I didn't know about it," he said.

The Watergate burglars were attempting to correct a malfunction in the wiretap when police arrested them.

United Press

been destroyed.

- He never received any wiretape reports but may have been sent some material obtained by a political spy.

- He was never told the money paid the Watergate burglars was to keep their mouths shut but that the cash was for family support and attorney's fees.

- He was never told by deputy Nixon campaign