

# Watergate Jury's Yule

## Washington

Watergate coverup trial jurors, sequestered away from their homes for 2½ months, joined with more than 30 grandchildren and other family members yesterday in Christmas gift-giving and a big turkey banquet.

A spokesman for the U.S. Marshal Service, Horace Webb, described the mood of the gathering at Washington's Sheraton - Park Hotel as "a typical family Christmas afternoon. It was sort of like one big family coming together."

Webb said 11 members of the Watergate panel, which consists altogether of 12 regular jurors and five alternates, took part in the dinner along with 31 guests and 21 deputy U.S. marshals.

The marshals were on hand to make sure there were no conversations about the trial, due to resume today with final arguments before the jury begins its deliberations. The jury has been sequestered since October 11.

In a hotel banquet room decorated by bubbling fountains spurting champagne and cold duck, they feasted on shrimp cocktail, young Vermont roast turkey, celery dressing, cranberry sauce and a choice of mince pie, pumpkin pie, ice cream pie or cheesecake for dessert.

The Marshals Service spokesman said the guests — among them about 20 youngsters, mostly grandchildren — began arriving shortly after 2 p.m.

He said the other six jurors and alternates chose to have their Christmas dinner privately, dining on the same turkey meal.

The panel's two-day Christmas recess ends today when defense attorney William S. Frates resumes closing arguments on behalf of one-time White House domestic adviser John D. Ehrlichman.

The case is expected to go to the jury tomorrow or Saturday.

*Associated Press*