

Profiles of Watergate

Washington (NYT)

Here are sketches of the defendants in the Watergate coverup trial:

HARRY ROBBINS (BOB) HALDEMAN, 48 — Next to the President, Haldeman was the most powerful man in the Nixon White House. A call from the chief of staff was feared by lesser officials who knew him as a brusque taskmaster who made efficiency his watchword.

With few exceptions, even Cabinet officers had to go through Haldeman if they wanted to see the President — and often they didn't make it.

A former advertising executive, his association with Mr. Nixon stretched back to 1956 when he was an advance man in the second vice presidential campaign. He worked again for Mr. Nixon in 1958, when the vice president was traveling in the behalf of GOP candidates, and in Mr. Nixon's campaigns in 1960, 1962 and 1968.

He and John D. Ehrlich-

man resigned from the White House under Watergate pressures on April 30, 1973.

Haldeman was charged with conspiracy, obstruction of justice and perjury. The prosecutors alleged he tried to use the CIA to limit the FBI investigation of the Watergate break-in and that he approved use of a secret \$350,000 White House cash fund for hush money payments to the burglars.

JOHN DANIEL EHR- LICHMAN, 49 — President Nixon's top domestic adviser was a classmate of H. R. Haldeman at the University of Southern California, and many viewed them as carbon copies in both personality and outlook.

Like Haldeman, he started with Mr. Nixon by doing advance work in the earlier campaigns. He moved up to tour director for the 1968 race, and then was named counsel to the President after Mr. Nixon's inauguration. Two years later, Mr. Nixon promoted him to assistant for domestic affairs, a posi-

tion that gave him great access to the President.

Upon leaving the White House, Ehrlichman returned to Seattle to resume his once-prosperous practice in land-use law. He was convicted of conspiracy earlier this year in the Ellsberg break-in trial.

Ehrlichman was charged with conspiracy, obstruction of justice and perjury. The prosecutors alleged he was involved in approving huge money payments, ordering destruction of evidence and offering clemency to the break-in defendants in exchange for their silence.

JOHN NEWTON MITCHELL, 62 — Attorney general from Jan. 20, 1969 to March 1, 1972, when he resigned to head Mr. Nixon's reelection committee. Three months later — and after the Watergate break-in — Mitchell left the campaign post, saying he did so at the insistence of his wife, Martha.

Mitchell and Mr. Nixon became close friends in the bid-1960s, when they were with Wall Street law firms

that merged in 1966.

Mitchell managed Mr. Nixon's 1968 presidential campaign. Early in his first term, Mr. Nixon described his attorney general as "my closest adviser, as you know, on all legal matters and on many other matters as well."

Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans were charged in 1973 in connection with a secret \$200,000 Nixon campaign contribution from financier Robert L. Vesco. Both were acquitted by a New York jury this year.

Born Sept. 5, 1913, in Detroit, Mitchell was graduated from Fordham University Law School. He became one of the nation's leading bond lawyers. He and his wife separated in September of last year.

Mitchell was charged with conspiracy, obstruction of justice and perjury. The prosecutors alleged he approved the political intelligence plan that led to the break-in and then played a central role in the cover-up.

ROBERT CHARLES MARDIAN, 51 — Headed the internal security division of the Justice Department from November, 1970, to May 1, 1972, when he resigned to follow former Attorney General Mitchell to the reelection committee.

A bespectacled, scholarly-

looking man and a political conservative, Mardian was an architect of the so-called "Southern strategy" and anti-school busing stands of the Nixon administration.

He professed great shock at learning of the involvement of campaign aides in the Watergate break-in. He left Washington to join his brothers in a Phoenix, Ariz., building firm.

Mardian was charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice. The prosecutors alleged he took part in efforts to get the burglars out of jail the day they were arrested and that he later was involved in

Defendants

discussions of hush money and in preparation of a false story to be told Watergate investigators.

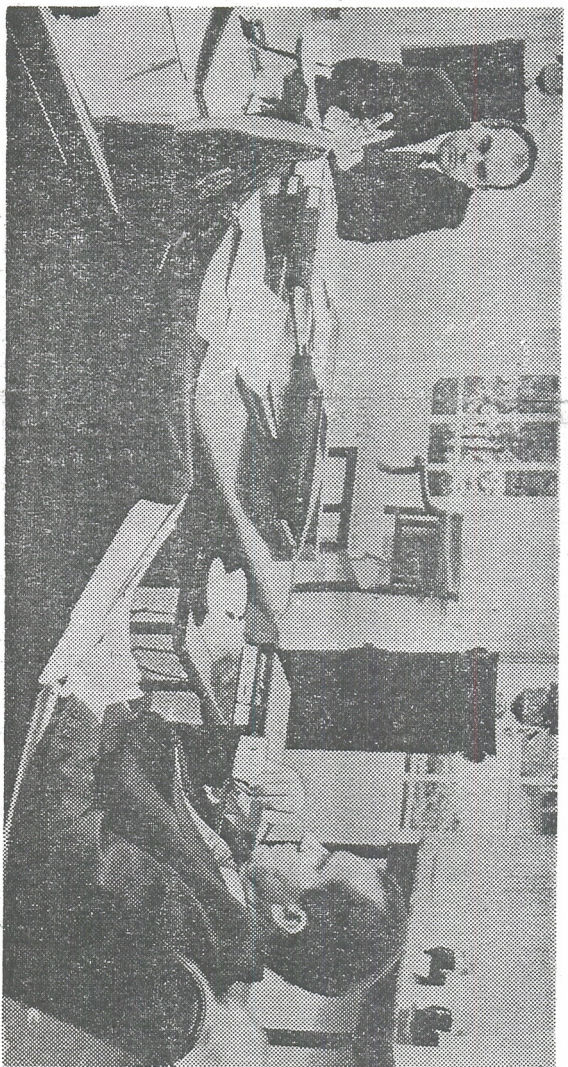
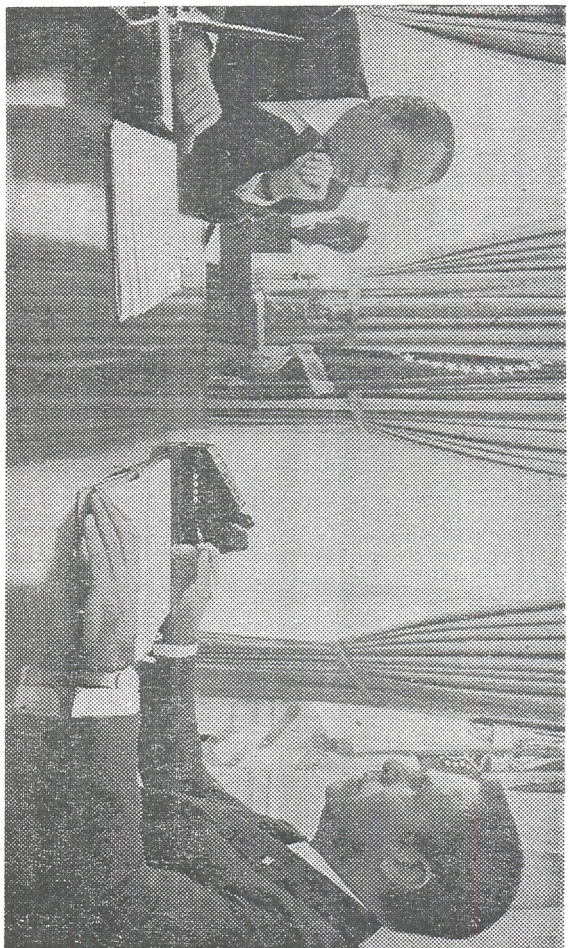
KENNETH W. PARKIN- SON, 47 — A native of Washington, Parkinson was active for years in the District of Columbia affairs. Once a law clerk in the same U.S. district courthouse where he has been on trial, he was drawn into Watergate matters when Mr. Nixon's campaign committee hired him to represent it in a civil suit filed by the Democrats over the original break-in.

His law practice included organization of corporations,

real estate zoning and lobbying. He also was an officeholder on the Board of Trade, the Legal Aid Society and the D.C. Bar Association.

Parkinson was charged with conspiracy and obstruction of justice. The prosecutors alleged he withheld information from authorities and was involved in passing a list of money demands from the burglars to White House counsel John W. Dean. Parkinson contended his only involvement was as a lawyer and that he was lied to by Mitchell and Mardian.

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Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Mitchell (from left) were at President Nixon's side during the Watergate period

