

SFChronicle

Lawyer Denies

MAY 3 1975

That Nixon

Was Unstable

Long Beach

James D. St. Clair, the lawyer who handled former President Nixon's Watergate defense, says Mr. Nixon was not mentally unstable in his last days as president.

"I saw him occasionally when he was highly emotional, just before his resignation," St. Clair told a Law Day banquet Thursday. "But I never felt he was out of touch with reality."

"I do suspect, however, that he was one of the last to realize he must resign," St. Clair said.

St. Clair admitted he was "deeply disappointed" when the damaging June 23 tape disclosures appeared.

He said he had no previous knowledge of their content.

Associated Press