P. 4 • Ehrlichman Seeks Freedom Since Nixon Did Not Testify WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 (AP) —John D. Ehrlichman, former White House aide, has asked the United States Court of Ap-peals to overthrow his convic-tion in the Watergate cover-up case because former President Richard M. Nixon did not tes-tify at his trial. Mr. Nixon was in a hospital in California with phlebitis and pneumonia while Mr. Ehrlich-man's trial was taking place last December, and court-ap-pointed doctors said he could not testify for weeks, by which time the trial was over. "Never before has a single witness been so central a fig-ure in a trial as was Richard M. Nixon in this case," Mr. Ehrlichman's attorneys told the court yesterday. Because Mr. Nixon did not testify, they said, Mr. Ehrlichman was forced to take the witness stand in his own behalf.