Notes on People

John D. Erhlichman lost another round yesterday in his fight to avoid entering Federal prison Sept. 17. Judge Gerhard A. Gesell refused in Federal District Court in Washington to set aside his decision ordering the former White House aide to start serving his Watergate sentence in Safford, Ariz. But a Supreme Court appeal of the conviction itself is being pursued.

For the first time since his Feb. 5 heart attack, Judge John J. Sirica has returned to work at Washington's Federal courthouse. Although looking almost gaunt, the 72-year-old Watergate judge said his weight drop from 170 to 150 pounds was applauded by his doctors.