

SEChronicle OCT 28 1976

John Dean — Still Dogging the White House

By Vera Glaser

Washington

Officials at the President Ford Committee are irked that NBC-TV did not announce, when Watergate figure John Dean appeared on the "Today" show, that he had been paid \$7500 for three appearances.

During the broadcasts Dean alleged that Mr. Ford helped head off a congressional probe of the Watergate break-in while he was House minority leader.

When a Ford campaign official complained to NBC, he was told that the network announced its financial arrangement with Dean a year ago, when it bought TV rights to his book, and does not intend to repeat it.

Dean's allegations prompted some questions of the President, but the Watergate special prosecutor, after an

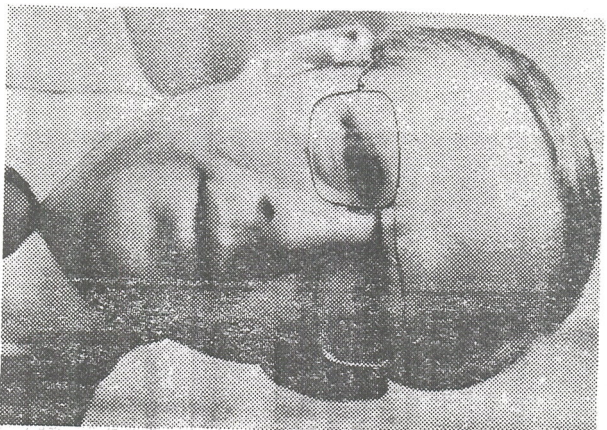
investigation, decided to take no action.

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Senator Hubert Humphrey's cancer operation and expected long convalescence will probably provide him with a graceful exit from a contest with Senator Robert Byrd for the job of majority leader.

Although Democratic vice presidential nominee Walter Mondale has been touting Humphrey, a fellow Minnesotan, for the job and party contributors reportedly tried to switch various senators from Byrd to Humphrey at the Democratic convention, the effort appears to have fallen flat.

Byrd, a West Virginian, now claims 36 commitments, and he's taking no chances. He's out stumping for some Senate candidates. Last week he spoke in Indiana for incumbent Vance Hartke, who's struggling to keep his Senate seat, and in Ohio for Howard Metzenbaum. Other Byrd dates are pending in Rhode



Dean got good pay for his three television appearances

Island, Tennessee, Arizona and Nebraska.

There are 62 Democrats in the Senate, which is not expected to change much after the elections, so Byrd could have the majority post sewed up if his 36 commitments hold. He's reported "very confident, even in private conversations."

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Liz Carpenter, a former aide to President Lyndon Johnson who describes herself as a "psalm-singing, foot-washin' Democrat," and Eilly Peterson, deputy chairman of the President Ford Committee, are the "odd couple" of this election year.

They are sharing Carpenter's house and, according to Peterson, are "like sisters." They became good friends while heading a bipartisan drive for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.