

Ehrlichman's Prison Job

Safford, Ariz.

John Ehrlichman, a key figure in the Watergate scandals, has been assigned a regular job in the power plant at the minimum security federal prison camp here, it was disclosed yesterday.

Ehrlichman entered the facility October 28 to begin serving a 2½- to eight-year prison term. He was the first of three major Watergate figures to enter prison.

Prison superintendent John Hadden said Ehrlichman wanted the job, which the prison official described as a "very technical and responsible position. One of the most difficult in the camp."

Hadden said 12 to 14 men generally are assigned to the steam

and hot-water generating station and have the responsibility of watching various machinery and adjusting gauges when necessary,

Hadden said the powerhouse jobs are held by both white-collar criminals and Mexican nationals, who make up the majority of the 350 prisoners at the camp. But he said all speak English.

Daytime power plant workers work eight-hour shifts while the night crew works only four hours at a time. Hadden said Ehrlichman will rotate through all the shifts to learn all the duties.

Hadden said Ehrlichman has adjusted well to prison life but is still refusing the many requests for interviews.

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