

Carter's attorney general

By Jerome Cahill
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PLAINS, Ga. — John Doar, staff director of the House impeachment inquiry into the Watergate role of former President Nixon, reportedly is under consideration for the post of attorney general in the Carter administration.

Doar, a former Republican who headed the New York School Board in 1968 and 1969, held top posts in the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and represented the federal government at several dramatic school integration confrontations in the South during the 1960s.

The News learned Doar's name was one of three circulated among members of Congress last week. Sources said he had the backing of his former boss in



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the impeachment hearings, Rep. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Rodino gave President-elect Carter important help during

the campaign, refusing to join a "stop Carter" movement in New Jersey during the primary and later campaigning extensively for the Democratic nominee among Italian-American groups.

Carter spent a quiet day at his home here after selecting veteran diplomatic troubleshooter Cyrus Vance as his secretary of state and Atlanta banker Thomas "Bert" Lance to head the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Carter plans to travel to Washington this week for meetings Wednesday night, Thursday and Friday with governors, business leaders, members of Congress and defense and national security experts.

The Carter press office indicated the president-elect might have more appointments to announce by the end of the week. He has indicated he is concentrating on personnel to fill his defense-national security-treasury cluster. His visit to Washington will include a briefing at the Pentagon by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The field for secretary of the treasury appeared to narrow yesterday with the request of A.W. Clausen, chairman of the Bank of America, to have his name withdrawn from consideration. Leading contenders for the post were believed to be Irving Shapiro, chairman of E.I. du Pont De Nemours & Co., and Robert Roosa, a member of a Wall Street investment firm who was undersecretary of the treasury for monetary affairs in the Kennedy administration.

Shapiro, 60, is head of the Business Roundtable, an organization of 170 of the nation's top business executives, and has

list

influential support in the Carter organization because of his assistance in the former Georgia governor's campaign.

"He helped us a lot," said Hamilton Jordan, Carter's campaign chief who is heading up the president-elect's search for Cabinet talent.

Carter appears to be anxious to maintain good relations with the business sector, and Jordan has said Carter's choice for the key treasury job would be seen as a "bridge to the business community." However, a spokesman for Shapiro said the Du Pont executive might be reluctant to leave his present job, which he has held for only three years.

In addition to Doar, Washington attorney Joseph Califano and U.S. District Judge A. Leon Higginbotham of Philadelphia were on the list the Carter transition team submitted to Capitol Hill as possibilities for the attorney general spot. Califano served in the Pentagon and the White House under President Johnson. Higginbotham is a leader of the black community and is highly regarded as a jurist.

There has been little speculation here on Carter's choice of a defense secretary. Most often mentioned is James Schlesinger, who held the job under Ford; Harold Brown, president of the California Institute of Technology and a high Pentagon official in the Johnson administration, and Michael Blumenthal, chairman of the Bendix Corp.

Sources close to Carter say Rep. Bob Bergland, D-Minn., is considered the frontrunner for secretary of agriculture in the new administration.