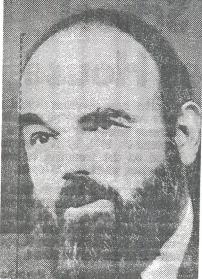
SFChronicle



John D. Ehrlichman learned that his release from prison has been set for next April 27

L'PI Tele

Parole Date Set For Ehrlichman

Washington

John D. Ehrlichman learned yesterday that his Watergate imprisonment will end after 1½ years, the third longest stretch for anyone caught up in the scandal that ended Richard Nixon's presidency.

The U.S. Parole Commission set April 27, 1978, as the release date for Ehrlichman, once No. 2 man in the Nixon White House staff.

In an unrelated case, the commission ordered former Oklahoma Governor David Hall, who is serving a sentence for bribery, released from the same Arizona prison next May 22.

Ehrlichman was told of the commission's decision at 7:35 a.m. when he finished work in the power plant at Swift Trail Prison. He refused comment.

The 52-year-old Ehrlichman, serving concurrent terms for two convictions, was eligible for parole Octpber 27 when he completed one year in prison.

Of the 25 men who went to prison, only the high command of the Watergate burglary served sentences longer than 1^{1/2} years. G. Gordon Liddy, who planned the break-in, was imprisoned 52 months. E. Howard Hunt, his lieutenant and recruiter of the men who carried out the burglary, was locked up 32 months.

When Ehrlichman is freed, the only Watergate convicts remaining in prison will be his co-defendants in the coverup trial, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman.

Associated Press