

## Court Refuses to Consider 'Leak' In Bid for Watergate Appeal

The Supreme Court yesterday denied a motion intended to inject a now-famed news "leak" into its formal consideration of applications for review of the Watergate cover-up convictions of three former top aides to President Nixon.

Without comment, as is routine, the court notified lawyers for John N. Mitchell, H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman that they could not file a memorandum on the impact on the trio's rights before the court "of the publicly disclosed circumstances in-

volving the consideration of the petitions" for review.

National Public Radio set off a flap on April 21 with a report that the justices had voted 5 to 3 in their always-secret conference to deny review. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger held up announcement of the vote, the network said, in hopes of persuading a fourth justice to side with him so that review would be granted.

As is customary, all of the justices have declined to comment. The court took no action on the petition yesterday.