

White House Blames Dean For Faulty Watergate Probe

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WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House blamed its faulty in-house investigation of the Watergate scandal on banished counsel John W. Dean III Wednesday as the Senate prepared to open its public hearings into the muddled affair.

"There was a certain inadequacy to the materials provided" by Dean who had been assigned responsibility for the probe, Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said.

Dean, who is expected to be a star witness in the televised Senate hearings, said last week there was a concerted effort to "get" him, limit his testimony and to discredit him personally in the hope of "discrediting my testimony."

He vowed not to become a scapegoat for others. The big Caucus Room, scene of the 1954 Army-McCarthy hearings and site of the announcements of their presiden-

tial candidacies of John and Robert Kennedy, was being readied for the hearings that begin Thursday for perhaps a six-months run.

Listed as leadoff witnesses are Robert C. Odle, office manager for President Nixon's re-election committee; Bruce Kherli, aide to ousted chief of staff H.R. Haldeman; Sgt. Paul Leeper, one of the policemen who arrested the Watergate burglars and James W. McCord Jr., the conspirator whose revelations burst open the scandal.

Another administration official, G. Bradford Cook, resigned as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission Wednesday—an outgrowth of alleged campaign financing violations that resulted last week in the indictment of former Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell, former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans and two

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others.

Even as Nixon asked Congress for a commission to completely re-examine "our system of election and campaign practices," two powerful Republican senators urged him to exert leadership.

"It is not easy for me to say this about my country or my President, but I think the time has come when someone must say to both of them 'let's get going,'" Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., said.

"We are witnessing the loss of confidence in America's ability to govern," he added.

Republican Senate Leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania called Goldwater's words "a cry from the heart" and said there is a need "of totally cleansing the political system through the judicial process."

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