

Ex-White House Aides Seek Deposition Delay

Post 5/18/73

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Lawyers for the Democratic National Committee yesterday opposed motions by former White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman asking a delay in the depositions the two men are scheduled to give in connection with the Democrat's civil suit on the Watergate break-in.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman told a federal judge Wednesday that they have learned that they "may be indicted" as a result of a federal grand jury's investigation into the Watergate affair. They said that deposition in the civil suit may jeopardize their rights against self-incrimination in a criminal case.

However, the Democrats' lawyers argued that since the two men said they did not invoke the Fifth Amendment before the grand jury,

"they cannot now complain of further jeopardizing themselves" if made to give depositions.

The depositions are scheduled for May 22, in the case in which the Democrats are seeking \$6.4 million for the break-in from Republican officials.

The lawyer for the Democrats said they might add Haldeman and Ehrlichman as defendants in their suit. The case is being heard by U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey.

Yesterday the Democrats, lawyers also opposed a motion by John W. Dean III, a former White House counsel, to delay his deposition in the case. They argued that since Dean has not yet been called before the grand jury, he cannot ask that his deposition be delayed.