

Baker to Probe

Threat to Post

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CHICAGO (AP)—Sen. Howard H. Baker says he will ask a Senate subcommittee to investigate a reported threat by President Nixon to retaliate against The Washington Post for its Watergate investigations.

The Tennessee Republican, ranking minority member of the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, said Friday the investigation should determine whether there were any White House attempts to carry out the threat.

Nixon reportedly made the comments on The Post in a conversation with White House aides on Sept. 15, 1972, when the paper was breaking revelations almost daily about the Watergate affair.

Nixon is quoted as saying in a tape of the conversation, "The main, main thing is The Post is going to have damnable, damnable problems out of this one. They have a television station . . . and they're going to have to get its license renewed."

Baker, who is also vice chairman of the Senate Watergate committee, said he was not concerned about Nixon talking in anger against The Post.

"But I am greatly concerned about whether any actions were taken to implement such things. It depends on whether he tried to carry it out or not. If he did, it was a serious offense," he said.

White House spokesmen have denied any connection between the Nixon administration and a group challenging before the Federal Communications Commission two Florida television stations owned by The Post.