

# Haldeman seeks new trial

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WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorneys for H. R. Haldeman asked U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica on Friday for a hearing on whether some of the Watergate cover-up trial jurors violated his order not to watch television or read newspapers during their deliberations.

Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff, was one of four men convicted New Year's Day of conspiring to obstruct justice in the Watergate breakin.

Attorneys John J. Wilson and Frank Strickler cited a newspaper's interview with one of the jurors, Ruth Gould.

The article, in Thursday's Washington Star-News, said:

"Mrs. Gould said there was little discussion of Nixon's pardon after Sirica's warning that the pardon was not to be considered in their deliberations.

"The judge, she said, wielded complete control over the jury's actions, though she hinted there were some

jurors who disregarded his instructions not to watch television or read newspapers during the brief periods they were not actually under surveillance."

The motion asked for a new trial and said that in order to check the accuracy of the story it would be necessary to subpoena at least Mrs. Gould and the Star-News reporter, Walter Taylor.

The lawyers asked Sirica for permission to issue the subpoenas or for the court itself to issue them for a hearing in open court.

The judge had imposed stringent regulations on the jury after his final instructions last Monday, ordering marshals to cut them off from all newspapers, radio and television. In the 2½ months the jury was sequestered newspaper reading and television watching was permitted but only after all references to Watergate were screened out.