

Senate Probers Vs. Cox Petition

Washington

The Senate Watergate committee yesterday asked the U.S. District Court to dismiss a petition to prevent the committee from hearing public testimony from John W. Dean III and Jeb Stuart Magruder.

"There is a pressing need for full public scrutiny of all the facts relating to the Watergate scandal," the committee said in a brief filed with the court.

Dean was formerly the White House counsel and Magruder was President Nixon's deputy campaign manager.

The brief was in answer to a petition filed Wednesday by special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox. Cox asked Judge John J. Sirica to bar broadcasts and press reports of any testimony Dean and Magruder may give the Watergate committee.

United Press