

Watergate Probe

No Recess for Senators' Staff

Washington

As members of the Senate Watergate committee scattered wearily toward their home states yesterday, the committee's investigators began exploring 7573 pages of testimony in search of potential cases of criminal perjury.

Samuel Dash, the chief counsel to the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, said that the staff would take advantage of a month-long recess in the Watergate hearings to check irreconcilable conflicts in the sworn testimony of the 33 witnesses who have appeared since May 17.

Dash said it is possible that the committee eventually will make recommendations to Archibald Cox, the special Watergate prosecutor in the Department of Justice, for further investigation into potential violations of the perjury laws.

Neither the chief counsel nor the seven senators on the committee appeared prepared to draw any firm conclusions from the con-

flicting accounts presented to them in the first phase of their Watergate inquiry, which ended Tuesday.

They appeared to be united, however, in the belief that the nearly three months of televised hearings already had accomplished some of their objectives.

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (Dem-Hawaii) said he is confident the hearings have "established for some time to come a rather strict code of ethics" for candidates for high office, particularly for the presidency.

"Any person aspiring to that high position," Inouye said, "would have second thoughts about a lot of things before he gets off the beaten track. I would hate to be sitting in that witness chair. A lot of futures have been ruined."

Senator Edward J. Gurney (Rep-Fla.) said in a separate telephone interview that "I don't think anybody on committee had the faintest idea of the implications of Watergate. If I had any idea," he added, "I would have been the most appalled person in Washington."

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