

Court Delay Over Nixon Subpoena

Los Angeles

A pretrial hearing in the burglary case against three former White House aides was postponed for a month yesterday because of a delay in serving a subpoena on President Nixon.

Superior Court Judge Gordon Ringer, at the request of defense attorneys, continued the proceedings until March 25.

By then, it is expected the "certificate of attendance" for Mr. Nixon that Ringer sent to District of Columbia Superior Court will be either rejected or presented to the President in the form of a subpoena.

The presiding judge for the District of Columbia, Harold H. Greene, has set a hearing on the projected subpoena for March 15.

The three defendants in the burglary case are John Ehrlichman, David Young, and G. Gordon Liddy. They want Mr. Nixon's testimony

to support their contention they were acting as federal officers in ordering the break-in of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office.

White House attorneys oppose the subpoena for Mr. Nixon on grounds of executive privilege.

A key point in the defense is expected to be Mr. Nixon's testimony. If he does not appear or at least give a deposition, the defendants may ask dismissal on grounds of violation of constitutional rights.

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