

Nixon Faces Threat of Another House Subpoena

Washington

Members of the House Judiciary Committee warned yesterday that they will serve a second subpoena on President Nixon if he refuses to comply with an April 19 request for tape recordings of 141 more White House conversations sought in the impeachment inquiry.

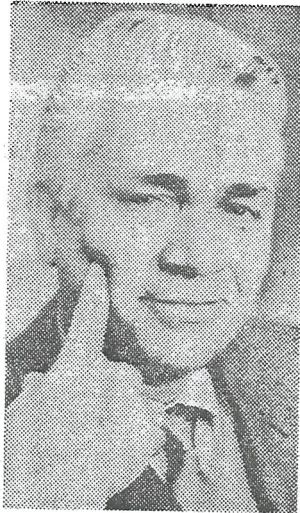
The determination of both Republicans and Democrats on the Judiciary Committee to pursue the April 19 request appeared to be directly related to their study of the 1254 pages of edited transcripts issued by the White House last week in reply to an earlier subpoena of 42 Watergate-related conversations.

Members of the House Judiciary Committee, some of whom said they had read all or parts of the White House transcripts during the weekend, began talking, in bipartisan terms, during interview yesterday about insisting that the President make a satisfactory reply to the committee's second, and substantially larger, request for impeachment evidence.

Representative Charles Wiggins, a California Republican whose vote was only one of three against the April 11 subpoena of the 42 Watergate-related conversations, said yesterday that the panel will "have to vote soon on what to do to compel production" of the additional White House material.

Wiggins said that two of the matters covered by the request amount to charges of bribery against the President and that "we have an obligation to determine if those charges are correct."

The April 19 request was for a number of White House documents, plus tapes of 75



CHARLES WIGGINS
'We have an obligation'



TOM RAILSBACK
Committee member

conversations bearing on the alleged Watergate coverup, 46 discussions related to Mr. Nixon's 1971 decision to increase federal milk price supports, and 20 conversations pertaining to the 1971 settlement of government antitrust action against the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp.

The White House has not formally replied to the April 19 request, although presidential spokesmen have said for a week, and reiterated yesterday, that Mr. Nixon has supplied all the material the Judiciary Committee needs to complete its impeachment inquiry.

James D. St. Clair, the President's special counsel, disclosed yesterday that lawyers for the committee had again asked him for a definite response to the April 19 request.

St. Clair said he will attempt to arrange a meeting with John M. Doar, the panel's special counsel, and Albert E. Jenner Jr., the chief

Republican Counsel, to determine "whether we can educate each other" on the relevance of the additional material.

The White House has sought to limit the scope of the inquiry to the Watergate burglary and its aftermath. But Republicans and Democrats on the committee said yesterday that the burglary is only one part of their investigation into the President's official conduct.

Representative Tom Railsback, (Rep.-Ill.), said that if the committee lawyers recommend pursuing the April 19 materials "I don't see how we can let that drop. We would really be shirking our duty."

Another Republican, Hamilton Fish Jr. of New York, said that the "whole volume" of transcripts released by the President last week "bears on a limited number of the allegations before us." He said the White House is "inviting a contempt citation" by disregarding the April 19 request.

Representative Robert W. Kastenmeier (Dem.-Wis.), agreed with Fish that the committee has little hope of being able to compel the President to honor the request.

Kastenmeier said that, at the least, "to dramatize it, it probably will be necessary for us to issue a subpoena."

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