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World-Wide

ST. CLAIR ASKED that impeachment hearings be made public to avert leaks.

The President's lawyer threatened to release materials he has supplied to the House Judiciary Committee if it doesn't open its hearings; they are closed for the initial presentation of evidence. St. Clair was responding to a leak showing that Nixon had edited out of his transcripts statements threatening to hurt The Washington Post for its aggressive coverage of Watergate. Nixon referred to the Post's need to get TV-license renewals. On Sept. 15, 1972, the panel's tapes show, Nixon also said he would "fix" the Post's lawyer, Edward B. Williams.

Rep. Peter Rodino (D., N.J.), chairman of the committee, said the hearings would be opened as soon as possible but would remain closed through next week.

Nixon said resignation would damage the stability of the U.S. government, upon which other nations depend. In the first exclusive interview he has granted since 1972, he told conservative columnist James J. Kilpatrick he had given long thought to quitting and then ruled it out.

Richard Kleindienst pleaded guilty to a federal misdemeanor charge in return for his cooperation in the investigation of ITT's 1971 campaign pledge and antitrust settlement. Kleindienst admitted that during 1972 Senate confirmation hearings on his nomination to be Attorney General he had concealed the fact that Nixon once ordered him to drop an appeal of a suit against ITT.

Special Prosecutor Jaworski said in a court brief that the defendants in the Ellsberg burglary, although justifying the action under Nixon's power to protect national security, aren't claiming the President authorized the break-in. Jaworski made clear that he believed Nixon hadn't any prior knowledge of the burglary.

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