Subpoenas Tried Again

On Nixon SFChronicle

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them.

The House Judiciary Committee subpoenaed 49 more presidential conversations yesterday despite notice from the White House that there was very little chance the panel would get any of

The committee's latest demands for evidence for its impeachment inquiry were contained in four subpoenas seeking material related to the ITT antitrust settlement, campaign contributions from dairy cooperatives, domestic surveillance activities and attempts to use the Internal Revenue Service to harass political opponents.

The committee has directed eight subpoenas to President Nixon, who has complied with none.

Asked why the committee was continuing to issue subpoenas when there was so

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liftle chance they would be obeyed, committee chairman Peter W. Rodino Jr., said, "I don't know of any other way the committee can make a proper inquiry. If the President refuses to comply with a proper request fully authorized by the House, the American people should know it."

On identical votes of 34 to 4, the committee approved s u b p o e n a s demanding 19

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ITT conversations and 18 related to an administration decision to raise milk price supports.

Voting against the subpoenas were four Republicans: Representatives Edward Hutchinson of Michigan, Charles W. Wiggins of California, Trent Lott of Mississippi and Delbert Latta of Ohio.

The other two subpoenas were approved on voice votes with no opposition heard.

Ten conversations related to domestic surveillance, including the activities of the White House plumbers, and two related to the IRS were demanded.

The subpoens also demand various memoranda and White House logs of presidential conversations as well as the news summaries prepared for the

President during certain periods.

All four subpoenas demand a response by 10 a.m., July 2.

John Doar, chief counsel for the impeachment inquiry, told the committee that much of the material requested in the domestic surveillance area stemmed from ex-White House aide Charles Colson's statement last Friday that "the President on numerous occasions urged me to disseminate damaging information about Daniel Ellsberg."

Colson was sentenced Friday to one-to-three years in prison on a charge of obstruction of justice stemming from his efforts to discredit Ellsberg when he was a defendant in the Pentagon Papers case.

The committee also voted unanimously to permit James D. St. Clair, the President's chief Watergate lawyer to respond on Thursday to the initial presentation of evidence by the impeachment inquiry staff.

St. Clair would be limited to presenting evidence orally and in writing. He would be given an opportunity later to call witnesses and present legal arguments.

Associated Press