

Plan to Limit 'Privilege' Power

Washington

Recommendations that Congress limit a president's use of executive privilege and define exactly what he can do in the name of national security have been proposed for the Senate Watergate committee's final report.

The committee is being urged also to advise Congress to shear the power acquired by key presidential advisers over the last three administrations.

These White House aides have become virtual assistant presidents, accountable to no one, the committee was told.

The recommendations were drafted by Arthur Miller, a legal consultant who has organized several studies of the broader problems posed by the Watergate scandals for the committee.

A copy of the Miller report was obtained by the Associated Press.

The seven senators on the committee are meeting daily in executive session this week to consider dozens of staff reports and recommendations for its final report.

The report is due Friday, but it was learned it may not be issued until Congress returns from its Independence Day recess.

Presidents historically have used executive privilege to withhold certain documents and material from Congress and from public scrutiny. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments July 8 on President Nixon's claim of executive privilege to protect White House papers and tapes wanted as possible evidence in the Watergate cover-up.

Associated Press