

Impeach Probers Are

Washington

Partisan maneuvering within the House Judiciary Committee increased yesterday as Chairman Peter W. Rodino Jr. (Dem-N.J.) announced that the panel's staff will present proposed articles of impeachment to the committee at closed briefings tomorrow and Friday.

Rodino said he hopes the committee will complete the debate and vote on articles of impeachment by the end of next week. Open sessions for the debate are scheduled to start on Monday.

Meanwhile, the committee released evidence dealing with alleged efforts by the administration to have the Internal Revenue Service harass President Nixon's enemies or protect his friends.

According to the documents, the IRS was under almost constant pressure from the White House and knuckled under occasionally to White House demands.

The final step before consideration of articles of impeachment begins is the presentation of an oral summation and legal brief by James D. St. Clair, the President's impeachment defense lawyer.

Partisan squabbles grew

more intense as the time to consider articles of impeachment drew closer.

Initial Republican complaints centered on what they called the pro-impeachment bias of the committee's chief counsel, John Doar, and minority counsel Albert Jenner.

Senior committee Republicans Edward Hutchinson of Michigan and Robert McClorey of Illinois pointedly bypassed Jenner and asked his deputy, Sam Garrison, to draft arguments against impeachment.

White House attempts to turn the IRS into a political

tool to punish "enemies" and to shield friends from tax audits were documented in a 440-page report formally released yesterday by the committee.

The report cited an effort to halt a tax audit of the Rev. Billy Graham, who was suspected of failing to have

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reported taxable gifts he had received — clothing from Charlotte and Asheville, N.C. merchants; tuition for his children, and construction and decorator work performed without charge.

Another document told of "a discreet check" under-

taken by the White House to see if actor John Wayne was justified in apparently complaining that he had been singled out for rough tax scrutiny.

Misuse of the IRS will be considered as a possible ground for impeachment when the committee starts

debating a bill of impeachment next week.

There was no evidence to show repeated attempts to initiate harassing tax audits against Democrat George McGovern's supporters and campaign staff ever succeeded.

A.P. & U.P.