Clawson Ordered To Testify Soon

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A federal judge yester-day ordered a White House aide to testify in a suit which claims that the White House is using tax money for a "massive publicity" campaign to defeat bills pending in Congress.

Kenneth W. Clawson, deputy White House, director for communications, was ordered to give pre-trial testimony May 2 in the suit filed by the Ralph Nader group, Public Citizen Inc. U.S. district judge Barrington D. Parker granted the organization's request that Clawson testify early in the case before certain bills come up before Congress.

The organization claimed in its suit that the White House, under Clawson's direction, has "orchestrated a massive publicity and propaganda campaign designed to effect the defeat" of about 15 bills opposed by President Nixon and to gain support for bills he has submitted.

The suit alleges that tax money is being spent for distributing certain materials to the media "designed to influence the passage" of certain bills.