

Part 7/13/73

Move to Bar Dean's Testimony Weighed

A motion that would bar lawyers for the Democratic National Committee from questioning former White House counsel John W. Dean III was taken under consideration yesterday by U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey.

The committee and other parties in the civil suit are seeking more than \$3 million in damages from the Watergate defendants.

Charles N. Shaffer, who is representing Dean in this case, told Judge Richey in a 90-minute hearing that such questioning could hurt Dean's defense in any criminal case that may be brought against him later for his part in the Watergate affair.

Shaffer said the limited immunity from prosecution granted Dean by the Senate Watergate committee would

not apply if Dean were to repeat the same statements he made to the committee in another forum, such as the suit before Richey.

He said special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox has already indicated he will seek to indict Dean.

Maurice R. Dunie, an attorney for the Democratic National Committee, said Dean should be compelled to give a deposition in the civil suit because there was nothing he could ask him about alleged criminal activities that Dean had not discussed in his five days of testimony before the Senate Watergate committee.

Saying he had been asked to settle "an important question of law," Judge Richey told all parties to submit their views in writing by July 18, after which he will issue a decision.