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WHITE HOUSE ENDS GRAY'S DATA OFFER

F.B.I. Watergate Files Open Only to Certain Senators

WASHINGTON, March 16 (UPI)—The Administration has rescinded the offer by L. Patrick Gray 3d, acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to open the F.B.I.'s files on the Watergate case to all members of the Senate, Congressional sources said today.

Under a new arrangement worked out with Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst, Senators Sam J. Ervin Jr., chairman of the special Senate committee investigating the Watergate case, and Howard H. Baker Jr., the vice chairman, will be able to view the files. The committee's chief counsel and minority counsel will also be permitted direct access to the files.

A Senator on the committee said that he would not be permitted to view the files under the arrangement.

The order restricting access to the files will apparently also apply to most other Senators, including members of the Judiciary Committee considering Mr. Gray's nomination as permanent director.

Mr. Gray had offered every Senator access to the Watergate files to prove that the F.B.I.'s investigation of the break-in and bugging of Democratic national headquarters was complete and free from White House interference.

But the White House has expressed concern about safeguards on disclosures from the files, and President Nixon said yesterday that "the sanctity of

those files must be maintained."

Mr. Ervin, Democrat of North Carolina, and Mr. Baker, Republican of Tennessee, met with Mr. Kleindienst today and then issued a statement saying the arrangement would give the committee full benefit of the results of the F.B.I. investigation while preventing improper dissemination of raw F.B.I. data.

Samuel Dash, the chief counsel, declined to comment on details of the arrangement but said a similar provision might be set up for the Judiciary Committee.