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Colson Not Talking to Senate Staff

Washington

Charles W. Colson, formerly special counsel to President Nixon, has refused to give the Senate Watergate committee staff any further interviews in advance of his public testimony, according to knowledgeable Senate sources. He is scheduled to appear before the committee in about two weeks.

Following the lead of John W. Dean III, who also broke off his pre-hearing talks with the committee staff, Colson has cited as his reason the informal release of unfavorable publicity about him.

He objected specifically to a story that his friend E. Howard Hunt, one of the convicted Watergate conspirators, had told Senate investigators Colson had ordered Hunt to break into the Milwaukee apartment of Arthur Bremer and search it for evidence the day after Bremer shot Alabama's Governor George Wallace last summer. Colson denied giving any such order.

New York Times