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Dean Is Said to Balk at 67 Questions

By MARJORIE HUNTER
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WASHINGTON, July 19 — John W. Dean 3d, former counsel to the President, reportedly invoked the Fifth Amendment 67 times today, refusing to confirm Watergate information he gave last month to a Senate investigating committee.

His refusal to answer questions of a House Armed Services subcommittee today was attributed by subcommittee officials to the fact that the panel had not granted him immunity from prosecution, such as he received from the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities.

A witness granted immunity by a Congressional committee cannot be prosecuted later in the courts for anything he says before that panel, unless the prosecutor can prove that the facts he has developed independently of that testimony.

When Mr. Dean and his attorney, Charles N. Shaffer, emerged from the hearing room today, they refused to answer questions of reporters lining the hallway of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Answered Routine Queries

Later, Representative Lucien N. Nedzi of Michigan, chairman of the House subcommittee, disclosed that Mr. Dean had invoked the Constitution's Fifth Amendment guarantee against being required to give testimony that might tend to incriminate him. Invoking the Fifth Amendment is not considered an admission of guilt.

Mr. Nedzi said that Mr. Dean invoked the Fifth Amendment to 67 questions, answering only routine questions about his age (he is 33 years old) and background.

While conceding that the House subcommittee has the "benefit of testimony" given by Mr. Dean in great detail during five days before the Senate's Watergate investigating committee, Mr. Nedzi said that his own panel wanted to explore with him the "information we have that has not come up in the Senate hearings." He declined to say what that information was.

The Nedzi subcommittee has questioned nearly 20 witnesses in the last two months about involvement of the Central Intelligence Agency in the Watergate affair. The subcommittee oversees that agency.

Mr. Nedzi said that the subcommittee had reached "tentative conclusions" as to who had masterminded the attempt to use the agency as a cover-up for the break-in at Democratic

National Committee headquarters in the Watergate complex a year ago.

"I'm not prepared to say what those conclusions are, however," he added.

One matter that the subcommittee had hoped to explore more fully with Mr. Dean, according to Mr. Nedzi, was his earlier testimony before the Senate committee that Robert C. Mardian, a Nixon re-election campaign official, had been the first to suggest to Mr. Dean that the intelligence agency might be enlisted as a cover-up for the Watergate affair.

Mr. Dean testified last month that at a meeting in the office of the then Attorney General, John N. Mitchell, on June 24 of last year, "Mardian first raised the proposition that the C.I.A. could take care of this entire matter if they wished."

He further testified that Mr. Mitchell then suggested that he [Mr. Dean] explore with John D. Ehrlichman and H. R. Halde- man, President Nixon's two top aides, "having the White House contact the C.I.A. for assistance."

Mr. Dean said that Mr. Ehrlichman "thought it was a good idea" and told him to call Gen. Vernon A. Walters, deputy director of the C.I.A., because he was a good friend of the White House, and the White House had put him in the deputy director position so they could have some influence over the agency."

Subsequently, Mr. Dean went on, he held several meetings with General Walters and sug-

gested that the agency provide support for the jailed Watergate defendants. He said that General Walters refused to go along.

Attorney Objects

Mr. Dean was subpoenaed by the Nedzi subcommittee in early June but asked that he be allowed to testify first before the Senate Watergate committee. Mr. Nedzi said today that Mr. Dean assured the subcommittee at that time that he would appear at a later date.

After a second subpoena was issued for his appearance this week, Mr. Dean's attorney objected to his client's being called on to testify, according to Mr. Nedzi.

"He told us that if word got out that Mr. Dean had taken the Fifth Amendment, it would be prejudicial to his rights," Mr. Nedzi said.

Dismissing Mr. Dean and his counsel from the room temporarily, the subcommittee reviewed the matter and decided to go ahead with the questioning, Mr. Nedzi said.

Mr. Dean was the third former White House aide to invoke the Fifth Amendment before the several Congressional investigations under way into the Watergate affair. Egil Krogh Jr. and David R. Young Jr. invoked the Fifth earlier this week before the Nedzi subcommittee.

G. Gordon Liddy, a convicted Watergate conspirator who has refused to divulge any information, will appear before the subcommittee tomorrow.



Associated Press

John W. Dean 3d, left, former White House aide, talking with his attorney, Charles N. Shaffer, before testifying at the House Armed Services Subcommittee yesterday.