

WATERGATE PANEL RESUMES SEPT. 17

Ervin Wants to End by Nov. 1
—Two More Phases Listed

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28— Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina, has decided to cut short the second and third phases of the Senate Watergate Committee's public hearings so that the committee will have more time to prepare its final report.

At a meeting yesterday in his home in Morganton, N.C., with committee aides Samuel Dash and Rufus L. Edmisten, Senator Ervin said he wanted to end the hearings by Nov. 1, "or shortly thereafter," Mr. Edmisten said today.

"He simply wants it over so we can begin working on the report," Mr. Edmisten said.

The Senate Committee will resume its hearings on Sept. 17. It will continue the first, or Watergate, phase of the hearings, which began on May 17, for about a week, and then spend two weeks each on the so-called "dirty tricks" and campaign spending phases.

The Watergate phase dealt with the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex on June 17, 1972, and the subsequent efforts to cover up information about those involved in the planning.

Charles W. Colson, the former special counsel to President Nixon, will be the first witness to testify when the hearings resume. "Beyond that we really don't know, because we don't know what the committee is willing to do," Mr. Edmisten said today.

Staff Analysis Due

The Watergate committee will meet on Sept. 11, six days after Congress returns, to plan the hearings. "We will present a staff analysis to the committee about how far we've gone, and who we should hear," Mr. Edmisten said.

Additional witnesses the committee will consider to complete the first phase of the hearings calling are: Kenneth W. Parkinson, a lawyer for the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President; Paul O'Brien, a lawyer for the Committee for the Re-election of the President; E. Howard Hunt Jr., one of the convicted Watergate burglars; and William O. Bittman, who is Hunt's attorney.

It is "doubtful" that Hunt will be called, according to Mr. Edmisten, unless he is willing to provide the committee with more information that he has been willing to give.

Mr. Edmisten did not men-

tion either David Young, a former assistant of Mr. Haldeman, or Egil Krogh Jr., who was in charge of the "plumbers" operation that was organized to stop leaks of secret Government information. Both had been mentioned previously as possible witnesses.

More Data Needed

Mr. Edmisten said the committee staff did not yet have enough information to draw up a list of witness for the "dirty tricks" and campaign spending phases of the hearings. Investigation in those two areas did not begin until after the hearings recessed three weeks ago, he said.

Although emphasizing the difficulty of the two investigations, Mr. Edmisten added: "We'll make it and we'll lay enough facts out so that the public as well as the committee can draw its conclusions."

The November date for ending the hearings is earlier than had been anticipated Under Senate Resolution 60, which established the panel, the Watergate committee has until late February to prepare its final report.

Committee aides have said that several members of the Watergate panel—especially those from the South—have been feeling pressure from constituents to end the hearings soon.

One aide noted recently that "there is concern among certain members of the committee not to unduly prolong the investigation." He added that both Senator Herman E. Talmadge of Georgia, and Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr. of Connecticut, have "publicly expressed the feeling that they don't want to get into a lengthy set of hearings."

In the meantime, the three major television networks have not decided whether they will continue live coverage of the Watergate hearings when they resume. A spokesman for one of the networks said the decision would depend, in part, on which witnesses the committee decided to call, and which agreed to testify.

A spokesman for the Public Broadcasting Service said it would provide "gavel-to-gavel" coverage of the first week of the hearings, but that no decision has been made on covering the second and third phases.