

# The Impeachment May Drag On

Washington

The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee warned yesterday that the inquiry into the impeachment of President Nixon could be delayed into 1975 if the Watergate special prosecutor does not turn over relevant grand jury evidence to the committee.

The chairman, Representative Peter W. Rodino Jr. (Dem.-N.J.) said in an interview that "we'd have to go another year" beyond an April target date for completion of the inquiry if the panel has to duplicate the special prosecutor's investigation.

Special prosecutor Leon Jaworski has said in several recent interviews that he could not violate the secrecy of the grand jury process and provide the information to the House committee without an order from Judge John J. Sirica of the U.S. District Court.

Representative Thomas F. Railsback (Rep.-Ill.), said he plans to introduce legislation later this week that would attempt to resolve the problem.

Railsback, a member of

the Judiciary Committee, said that his proposal would require a prosecution investigating any allegations against a president or vice president to share information with Congress in an impeachment proceeding.

"I don't see how we are going to get this over with — either to exonerate or impeach the president — without access to the prosecutor's material," Railsback said. Rodino said he would prefer to obtain the evidence from the prosecutor without issuing a subpoena or enacting legislation because of the risks that either course might become entangled in a court dispute.

John W. Doar, the special counsel to the Judiciary Committee on the impeachment inquiry, met Monday with Jaworski in an attempt to reach agreement on a course of action, it was learned.

The committee chairman said that the panel is going to great lengths to "show we can handle it" — the information — without allowing it to leak into print or general circulation.

*New York Times*