

House Plans Extreme Security In Capitol for Nixon Debate

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 5 (AP)—Spurred by threats against Congress and its individual members, House leaders are drafting plans for the tightest security measures ever imposed at the Capitol building, to be effective during the House impeachment debate that is to begin Aug. 19.

The majority whip, John J. McFall, Democrat of California, chairman of a special bipartisan committee on procedures, said that the plans contemplated virtually sealing off the House end of the Capitol.

Access would be limited to persons who must conduct business there and admission would be controlled by electronic screening devices such as those at airports, Representative McFall said.

Through Searches Set

All packages, briefcases and equipment would be searched. The public would be admitted to other parts of the building, including the Senate side.

One proposal under consideration is for twice-daily sweeps of the immediate vicinity of the House chamber by the police, security agents and dogs trained to sniff out explosives.

There would be no shuttling of groups of tourists in and out of the public galleries overlooking the chamber.

The press section would be expanded to accommodate a portion of the expected huge influx of news representatives. In the remaining gallery space, some seats would be reserved for the executive branch and the diplomatic corps, while the

rest would be allotted to guests of Representatives and Senators each of whom would be restricted to one ticket.

Ordinary news credentials would be suspended and a limited number of special passes issued. The debate is scheduled to end Aug. 29.

Officials said that threatening letters and messages peaked during and after the broadcast proceedings of the House Judiciary Committee.

"Some are no doubt crank letters, but how can you tell?" one official commented.