

White House Firm On ITT Testimony

by Sanford J. Ungar

The White House has told Senate Republican leaders that it will not compromise on the issue of "executive privilege" in order to save the nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst as Attorney General.

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Yesterday, Ervin rejected out of hand a suggestion by Sen. Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.) that a compromise way might be found for the committee to talk with Flanigan in some situation other than a public hearing.

"I think the public business should be conducted in public," Ervin declared. "I don't think he (Flanigan) should come up here and whisper in our ears."

As part of his ammunition, Ervin produced a speech given by Mr. Nixon on the House floor on April 22, 1948, in which the then congressman from California complained of President Truman's refusal to make information available to Congress.

In that speech, Mr. Nixon complained that the White House position "cannot stand from a constitutional standpoint."

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