

Mitchell Testimony Halted

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Testimony by former Attorney General John Mitchell in the Democrats' \$1 million suit against five men charged with a break-in and bugging at Democratic national headquarters was cut short today by legal maneuvering.

Mitchell and others have been giving depositions as a preliminary part of the invasion - of - privacy civil suit.

Mitchell said he stopped answering questions on the advice of Henry Rothblatt, the lawyer for the five men arrested inside the Democratic offices.

Rothblatt said he filed a motion today with Judge Charles Richey to stop all proceedings in the civil case because the publicity may prejudice the expected trial of the five men.

Mitchell, who resigned as chairman of Nixon's campaign July 1, said he did answer some of the questions asked by Edward Bennett Williams, attorney for the Democrats.

"But I did not get to the question where I swore that I had no advance knowledge of the bugging incident," Mitchell said. "I'll swear to that now."

Richey, who is presiding in the case, is out of town and is not expected to rule on Rothblatt's motion until after Labor Day, further delaying the civil trial which Richey has promised to expedite.

Mitchell refused to discuss any facts in the case but called the civil suit filed by the Democrats "demagoguery of the highest order."