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Talkative

McCord
Irks Ervin

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senate investigators reportedly are putting pressure on James W. McCord Jr. not to make public statements telling what he knows about the Watergate affair until the completion of Senate hearings into the incident.

McCord, who spent three days last week giving sworn testimony about his role in the break-in and bugging of Democratic Party headquarters, said he would hold a press conference before going before the Senate again.

Ervin Angry

Hearing this, Sen. Sam Ervin, the North Carolina Democrat who heads a special Senate Committee on Watergate, is said to have exploded: "How can we conduct a decent investigation when it's all been old to the media?"

Sam Dash, the committee counsel, reportedly then asked McCord's lawyers to have him postpone the news conference.

But Bernard Fensterwald, one of McCord's attorneys, said he has heard no complaints from Dash or anyone else in the Senate. He said he plans to go ahead with the press conference, possibly this week, after McCord is finished testifying before a grand jury and giving a pre-trial deposition in a series of civil suits.

Perjury Charged

Another of McCord's lawyers, Henry B. Rothblatt, reportedly is against any public statements by the convicted Watergate conspirator until the Senate hearing because "we don't want to back Ervin into a corner."

It was McCord who told U.S. District Court Judge John Sirica March 30 that there was perjury during the trial and that others beside those convicted were involved in the case. His sentencing was postponed so he could help investigators.