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2 GOP Senators Vs. Nixon on Aides

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Two Republican senators said yesterday they think Congress has the power to compel President Nixon's aides to testify before a Senate panel investigating the Watergate affair.

One of them, Sen. Charles H. Percy of Illinois, said there is no possibility "of stretching the concept of executive privilege to include anyone that has any knowledge of alleged criminal activity."

He also said that if it is found that White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman knew of an illegal spy plot "there would be no place he could appropriately hold in this administration."

Administration's Stand

The Watergate panel reported last week it had no evidence linking Haldeman with any illegal activity in the 1972 campaign.

Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.), said he believes Nixon's aides should appear and can be successfully subpoenaed if they refuse. He said many people believe there is a conscious attempt by the White House to cover up what he called the "Watergate mess."

The administration's position is that the President's

aides will only answer written questions or appear informally.

Some Republican senators, including Sen. Charles McC. Mathias (R-Md.), have said the main concern voiced to them about Watergate has come from fellow Republicans.

Political Effects

GOP National Chairman George Bush has warned that the case could have harmful political effects unless dealt with promptly.

And Sen. George Aiken (R-Vt.), the Republican dean of the Senate, has said Democrats view the affair as a long-range issue that can be used against Republican candidates for a generation.

A sharp attack on White House handling of the Watergate case came from a leading House GOP conservative, Rep. William J. Scherle of Iowa. Scherle declared that "far more than the reputation of any single administration or party, Watergate has challenged the integrity of the government as a whole and crippled its effectiveness."

"The cloak of executive privilege should never be used to shelter wrongdoers no matter how highly placed," he said.