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Poll Says GOP Senators Want Nixon to Clarify Watergate

From News Dispatches

Nearly every Senate Republican wants President Nixon to tell whatever he knows about the Watergate affair, an Associated Press survey of GOP senators indicated yesterday.

Urging the President to let White House aides testify at forthcoming Senate investigation hearings, many senators echoed Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater's statement last week that the Watergate incident threatens Republican election chances in 1974 and 1976. The AP survey said that

two-thirds of the Senate's 43 Republicans, including both conservative and liberal legislators, favored a complete disclosure by the White House of any facts pertaining to the Watergate case.

On Friday, House Minority Leader Gerald Ford (R-Mich.) said also that Nixon aides should clear up speculation about the Watergate conspiracy by testifying under oath before Senate investigators.

"I personally think the way to clear it up is for John Mitchell, Bob Feltman, John Dean and any others who have

publicly said they are not involved in and had no information on it should go before the Senate committee, take an oath and deny it publicly," said the Michigan congressman.

"They're innocent; they said they're not involved. The best way for them to clear it up is for them to make a public appearance and say it under oath," Ford told a group of Republicans in St. Johns, Mich.

Also Friday, Sen. Adlai Stevenson III (D-Ill.) said in San Francisco that the White House should "make a full and fair disclosure to lead the investigation, rather than resist it."

Rejecting what he termed attempts to rationalize the Watergate incident by claiming "everyone does it," Stevenson said: "But everyone, most emphatically, does not do it—let alone every President."