

Haldeman Tells of Role In Spy Plan

Washington

H. R. Haldeman told a House subcommittee yesterday that he was merely the conduit between President Nixon and drafters of 1970 plans for expanded domestic intelligence gathering.

After three hours of questioning by a House Armed Services subcommittee, the former White House chief of staff said he had fully cooperated with the committee but firmly declined to comment on his testimony.

Later, however, Representative Lucien Nedzi (Dem-Mich), subcommittee chairman, quoted Haldeman as saying that he had not participated in drafting, approving or later rescinding the 1970 intelligence gathering plan.

White house documents obtained by the New York Times and published yesterday indicated that Mr. Nixon had approved the plans in July, 1970, after being cautioned that parts were "clearly illegal"

A White House spokesman said yesterday that publication of portions of the document by the Times "illustrates the seeming impossibility of maintaining the confidentiality of sensitive government documents."

Gerald R. Warren, deputy White House press secretary, deplored what he termed "this climate which encourages leaks of classified materials." The climate, he added, "seems to encourage people to gain possession of these documents by whatever means they do it and make them available for publication."

N.Y. Times Service