

# Dean's 'Quite Different' Answers



**SUPERWITNESS JOHN W. DEAN III**  
He'll be back at the Capitol tomorrow

—AP Photo

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON — A Senate investigator said John W. Dean III gave answers "quite different from any public testimony given so far" in five hours behind closed doors yesterday.

Dean, the former presidential counsel, emerged from a committee room without saying a word after interrogation by Watergate committee lawyers.

Once having been sworn in and granted limited immunity from prosecution for anything he might say, Dean answered all questions, Rufus Edmisten, committee deputy counsel, told reporters.

"Was he cooperative? Most definitely," Edmisten said. "He was very frank."

**Another Meeting**  
Neither Edmisten nor Samuel Dash, the committee's chief counsel, would discuss the substance of Dean's testimony.

Dash did say Dean was not questioned on matters relating to specific conversations with President Nixon, national security, or anything that might fall into the area of his attorney-client relationship with Nixon. He said those matters

## He Talks Privately to Senate Probers Prior to His Testimony

would be dealt with by the committee when it meets with Dean again tomorrow afternoon.

Dash said Dean is preparing an opening statement for his public, televised appearance before the committee Tuesday which gives all the information he has supplied in the secret questioning. Dean will be questioned tomorrow by all seven senators serving on the Watergate panel.

**'Knee Deep'**  
Senate sources said that the two private meetings are intended to determine exactly what Dean knows of possible presidential involvement from personal and first-hand knowledge.

The sources indicated senators will attempt to avoid testimony that is merely inflammatory and not based on solid evidence.

The New York Daily News said Dean was prepared to swear that Nixon had "no prior knowledge" of the May-June 1972 break-ins at the Democratic National

Committee in the Watergate complex but that the President was "knee deep" in the cover-up plot.

Quoting unidentified sources, the Daily News said Dean would testify he had 35 to 40 discussions with Nixon between last January and April 30, when Nixon dismissed him. It said Dean would claim that "virtually" all of the conversations dealt with White House efforts to cover up involvement of high officials in the administration and the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

### Retraction

The Daily News quoted its sources as saying that Dean planned to charge that Nixon agreed to make up to \$1 million available in "push money" to keep the Watergate conspirators from talking to government prosecutors. The newspaper did not provide any details.

"This is an executive session and I think we're going

to keep it that way," Dean said when he arrived.

When Dean was first reported to have said that he had talked to Nixon "30 to 40 times" this year, the White House quickly issued a flat denial, calling the statement ridiculous.

Later, however, the White House admitted the conversations did take place but continued to deny that they involved covering up high level White House, administration and Nixon re-election committee involvement in the Watergate operation, which occurred a year ago today.