

Dean on Watergate Stand Today

Washington

The Senate Watergate committee braced yesterday for its longest week yet, with explosive and possibly contradictory testimony expected from John W. Dean III and John N. Mitchell.

Dean, the ousted White House counsel, who has vowed he won't be a scapegoat in the wiretapping affair, is scheduled to take the witness chair at 7 a.m. today.

Mitchell, former attorney general, will follow later in the week, according to the committee's ever-changing schedule. Abandoning its leisurely Tuesday-through-Thursday schedule, the panel now plans tentatively to hold five straight days of hearings before taking a week's break over the Fourth of July holiday.

With all three major television networks providing live coverage, Dean is expected to repeat in public the accusations against President Nixon that he already has made in private to Senate investigators.

MEETINGS

Dean will testify, Newsweek magazine said yesterday, about a series of tense meetings he had with Mr. Nixon between February and the end of April.

At one of them, the magazine said, Dean says he told the President, "I hope my going to the prosecutors will not lead to your impeachment."

"I hope not," Dean quoted Mr. Nixon as replying.

The magazine said Dean claims he repeatedly told the President the Watergate coverup could prove disastrous "but the President didn't want to listen."

Newsweek said that Dean says when he accused himself of committing crimes in the coverup, Mr. Nixon replied "You have not broken

the law. You have protected the Presidency."

Dean also reportedly will tell senators that a plan had been made to make Mitchell "take the heat" for the bugging, Newsweek said.

DETAILS

Dean also may give new details that even Senate panel members haven't heard yet. Dean broke off his pri-

Back Page Col. 6

From Page 1

ate interviews with the committee last week after newsmen were told about an embarrassing admission Dean made. Dean admitted borrowing campaign money to finance his honeymoon, and was immediately called an "embezzler" by Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott.

Weekend developments in the scandal were sparse.

Herbert G. Klein, the President's outgoing communications director, predicted that Nixon soon will hold a news conference. But he said Nixon will decline to answer some questions about individuals involved in the affair, so as not to prejudice their legal rights.

Without mentioning anyone by name, Klein blamed the wiretapping upon persons to whom the President had delegated authority.

Klein spoke yesterday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Dean is expected to open his testimony today with a lengthy statement, taking perhaps several hours to read. The questioning that will follow may take two or three full days.

According to official summaries of his earlier private testimony, Dean has said he took part in discussions of wiretapping in two meetings in Mitchell's office last year and told presidential chief of staff H. R. Haldeman what was going on.

Dean said he personally helped cover up the affair and the President indicated to him several times after the break-in that he knew about the coverup. Dean has said in news interviews that he has documents to back up his testimony.

Associated Press