

WEICKER OPPOSES NIXON SUBPOENA

**But Hopes President Will
Testify Unasked—Dean
Criticized by Gurney**

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WASHINGTON, July 2—Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., who has been sharply critical of the Nixon Administration over the Watergate affair, said today that he did not believe the Senate Watergate Committee should try to subpoena President Nixon.

But the Republican Senator from Connecticut said at a news conference in Bridgeport that he hoped that Mr. Nixon would voluntarily testify before the committee.

The committee is taking this week off, following five exhausting days of testimony by John W. Dean 3d in which the former White House counsel contended that President Nixon took part in covering up the facts surrounding the Watergate burglary at Democratic national headquarters in June, 1972.

With Congress in recess for the week, most of the committee's members, like Mr. Weicker, have returned to their home states.

Gurney Criticizes Dean

But one member, Senator Edward J. Gurney, Republican of Florida, went to Waterville, Me., to visit his mother. In an interview there, Mr. Gurney called Mr. Dean "a shoddy turncoat" and said that it would be "ab-



Associated Press

Lowell P. Weicker Jr., a Republican member of the Watergate committee, at news conference in which he discussed the inquiry in his Bridgeport, Conn., office.

solutely demeaning" for the President to defend himself against Mr. Dean's testimony.

Although the White House reiterated today that Mr. Nixon would not go before the Senate committee, the question of testimony from the President continued to be a major item of discussion among members of the committee.

Senator Weicker, unlike Senator Gurney, said that he was

impressed by Mr. Dean's testimony. But he said it would do an injustice to the Constitution for the committee to subpoena the President.

Even Senator Gurney, who has been the staunchest defender of the President on the committee, said that he hoped Mr. Nixon would have "some sort of free-swinging press conference" on the Watergate scandal.