

A White House Delay on Memos

Washington

Presidential counsel Leonard Garment told Senate investigators yesterday the White House needs more time to consider their request for files relating to the Watergate scandal.

Samuel Dash, chief counsel to the Senate Watergate committee, said Garment cited the massive number of documents the committee wants to examine and photocopy.

Among the documents are the files of former presidential aides and news summaries of the Watergate case that were given to President Nixon. The committee has heard testimony that Mr. Nixon often wrote notes

from the news summaries, for followup action by his aides.

"They want to give us a positive response," Dash said of the White House staff. "But it will take a couple of days to make that decision and get back to us."

The White House documents, he said, are not required for questioning of former attorney general John N. Mitchell, who will be at the witness table when committee hearings resume July 10.

The investigators particularly want access to the voluminous files of former White House aides H. R. Haldemen, John D. Ehrlichman, Charles W. Colson and John W. Dean III.

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