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Haldeman's Lawyer Terms Inouye 'That Little Jap'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (UPI) — H. R. Haldeman's lawyer referred today to Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Democrat of Hawaii, as "that little Jap" and said later he saw nothing wrong with the comment, adding: "I wouldn't mind being called a little American."

John J. Wilson, 72 years old, made the first remark after the morning session of the Senate Watergate hearings when a reporter asked if he believed Mr. Haldeman had been questioned fairly by Senator Lowell P. Weicker, Republican of Connecticut.

"Oh, I don't mind Senator Weicker," replied Mr. Wilson, "What I mind is that little Jap."

Mr. Wilson nodded his head in the direction of Mr. Inouye, a member of the committee and a much-decorated United States Army veteran of fighting in Europe during World War II. Mr. Inouye is of Japanese-American extraction.

"I don't think it's necessary to comment," said Inouye when asked for his reaction. "I think his statement speaks for itself."

Mr. Inouye was heard last week to mutter "What a liar" after he had questioned the former Presidential aide, John D. Ehrlichman, also Mr. Wilson's client. Mr. Inouye apparently thought his microphone was dead at the time.

Mr. Wilson, questioned later about his comment, acknowledged that he had meant Mr. Inouye when he used the phrase "that little Jap" and told reporters:

"That's just the way I speak. I consider it a description of the man — I wouldn't mind being called a little American."



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John J. Wilson, counsel to H. R. Haldeman, looking over a bundle of letters delivered to him before the start of yesterday afternoon's Watergate hearing. They had been received at the Senate's mail center.