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# Flagmaker Calls Probe 'Witch Hunt'

DETROIT, Aug. 9 (UPI)—  
A Detroit flagmaker calling  
the Senate Watergate hear-  
ings a political witch hunt  
has initiated a petition drive  
to halt the nationally tele-  
vised hearings.

Robert Erdman and four  
friends, calling themselves  
the Concerned Citizens for  
Constitutional Government,  
has distributed some 1,000  
petitions in the Detroit area.

Erdman said President  
Nixon and his associates  
were far from blameless in  
the Watergate burglary and  
cover-up, but the prosecu-  
tion of the guilty parties  
was "a judicial, and not a  
legislative function."

Erdman, a supporter of  
the President, said the pub-  
lic hearings have become a  
bandwagon for the philo-  
sophical and political oppo-  
nents of Richard Nixon.

"If this keeps up, we'll  
have to portray justice with  
her hands tied behind her  
back," he said.

Erdman, who has owned  
the American Flag and Ban-  
ner Co., said he is not "a  
professional flagwaver."