

Ervin Plans A Quick End To Hearings

Washington

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. (Dem-N.C.) has decided to cut short the second and third phases of the Senate Watergate committee's public hearings so that the committee will have more time to prepare its final report.

At a meeting ^{27 AUG} Monday in his home in Morganton, N.C., with committee aides Samuel Dash and Rufus L. Edmisten, Ervin said he wants to end the hearings by November 1, "or shortly thereafter," Edmisten said yesterday.

"He simply wants it over so we can begin working on the report," Edmisten said.

The Senate committee will resume its hearings on September 17. It will continue the first, or Watergate, phase of the hearings that began on May 17, for about a week, and then will spend two weekseach on the so-called "dirty tricks" and campaign spending phases.

The Watergate phase dealt with the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex on June 17, 1972, and the subsequent efforts to cover up information about those involved in the planning.

Charles W. Colson, the former special counsel to President Nixon, will be the first witness to testify when the hearings resume.

"Beyond that we really don't know, because we don't know what the committee is willing to do," Edmisten said yesterday.

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