

Mitchell, Stans Seek Delay Again

New York

Former cabinet members John Mitchell and Maurice Stans asked a federal appeals court yesterday to stop a "headlong rush to judgment" and postpone their perjury and conspiracy trials in the Vesco GOP campaign contribution case, now scheduled to begin next Tuesday.

U.S. Appeals Court Judge Henry J. Friendly granted a hearing on the request for Tuesday morning, which could delay the trial for at least a few hours.

Mitchell, the former U.S. Attorney General and later President Nixon's campaign manager, and Stans, former commerce secretary and later Mr. Nixon's chief fundraiser, are charged with conspiring with financier Robert Vesco to accept a \$200,000 contribution in re-

turn for helping Vesco in a securities investigation.

Vesco was later charged with "looting" \$224 million from companies he and associates controlled, and the \$200,000 contribution was returned.

Lawyers for Mitchell asked the court to postpone the trial from September 11 until at least October 4 to allow him to prepare his defense. Lawyers for Stans asked for "adequate time" to prepare a defense.

Peter Fleming, Mitchell's attorney, said Mitchell had been overcome by other inquiries into his activities, particularly the Senate Watergate investigation.

Attorneys for Stans said their client's constitutional rights would be violated unless the appeals court "intervenes to delay Judge Gagliardi's arbitrary and headlong rush to judgment."

Stans' attorneys also argued that he had been "the focal point of the many investigations which have arisen in the aftermath of the 1972 presidential campaign."

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