

Percy Asks Nixon for Meeting

WASHINGTON — (CST) — Sen. Charles Percy has requested a meeting with President Nixon to discuss his presidential plans for 1976, Administration sources reported yesterday.

Nixon has not yet responded, and the sources declined to predict whether the meeting will be arranged. The request was viewed as unusual and in the pre-Watergate period it would have been unlikely that the President would have entertained it.

Now, however, with Nixon seeking to open up the White House to Congress and his political opponents, the meeting with Percy (R-Ill.) could not be ruled out.

Percy incurred the President's wrath by proposing, shortly after the Watergate scandal broke open last spring, that a special prosecutor be appointed to pass independent judgment in the case. Subsequently, Nixon appointed Archibald Cox.

Later, the President invited Percy to accompany him to Pekin, Ill., for the dedication of the Dirksen Library in June. The two men conferred aboard the presidential jet, and Percy indicated that they had patched up their differences. The White House withheld comment.

Percy made the request to see Nixon again next week. He apparently was motivated by the belief that no one can expect to obtain the Republican nomination in 1976 over the objections of the President, even a President seriously wounded by the Watergate scandal.

Nixon has recently conferred with two other potential presidential candidates, Vice President Agnew and former Treasury Secretary John Connally.