

Watergate Panel to Call 4 Witnesses

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The Senate select Watergate committee released a list of four witnesses to be called when it resumes its hearings next Monday, including convicted Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt Jr. and presidential aide Patrick J. Buchanan.

The committee's decision to call Buchanan, a special consultant to the President who oversees the preparation of Mr. Nixon's daily news summary, came as something of a surprise since Buchanan has not figured prominently in the hearings or reports about the Watergate affair.

The committee is scheduled today to call former special counsel to the President Charles W. Colson to an executive hearing to see if he will testify or invoke his Fifth Amendment rights not to answer questions and if he has any substantial new information to provide.

Colson initially was scheduled to be the committee's first witness but his appearance was thrown into doubt after he was reportedly informed that he is a target of the federal grand jury investigating the September, 1971, break-in at the offices of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

Hunt, who Monday asked Chief U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica to set aside his guilty plea in the Watergate case and to dismiss charges against him, is expected to be questioned

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Sen. Ervin warns committee's failure to get presidential tapes may prolong Watergate hearings. A14.

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about his role in the Ellsberg break-in, the burglary of the Democratic National Committee's Watergate headquarters in June, 1972, and other activities he participated in while serving as a White House aide.

According to an informed source, the committee staff has obtained memos indicating that Buchanan advocated "infiltrating the opposition" during the presidential campaign. According to this source, Buchanan's testimony would be used to "show a pattern or a tone," how the Nixon political strategists "would go

about working in other primary campaigns."

This source indicated that the briefing given the committee yesterday by chief counsel Samuel Dash failed to indicate that any firm evidence had been obtained by the committee to show that Buchanan had engaged in anything beyond normal political activity.

Another source close to the committee characterized the memos as showing that Buchanan was a principal advocate of a strategy designed to knock Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) out of the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination and to try to influence the selection process so that the Democrats would choose the weakest candidate.

In a brief telephone interview yesterday, Buchanan acknowledged that he had written memos concerning the 1972 campaign but asserted that he wrote "nothing suggesting infiltration."

Concerning what he advised about Muskie, Buchanan said, "There's no doubt that I recommended that, Muskie being the front-runner, we should target our approach to him rather than a scattergun approach. But I do not think that's abnormal. There must have been half-a-dozen guys in the building (the White House) suggesting the same thing."

Buchanan said that "no one has suggested . . . thus far" that he had done anything illegal or improper during the campaign.

Asked if he would respond to the committee's subpoena to testify, Buchanan said, "I'll have to talk to the folks in the White House when I get the subpoena."

Committee Chairman Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) told reporters yesterday that the committee will also hear testimony from John J. Caulfield, a former White House aide who conducted several clandestine investigations under orders from his White House superiors, and John J. Ragan, a former FBI agent who reportedly assisted Caulfield in installing a telephone tap on the phone of columnist Joseph Kraft.

According to a memo from the special Watergate prosecutor's office to the FBI that was obtained by The Washington Post, "John J. Caulfield has informed this office that the Washington residence of Joseph Kraft was the target of a

telephone tap in June of 1969. The person who actually installed the tap was John J. Ragan, Massapequa, Long Is-

land, New York."

Ragan said in a telephone interview yesterday that he and Caulfield were the only persons involved in the Kraft operation. "This was a survey type of thing," Ragan said. "There was no tap put on that telephone by us."

Ragan said that by "survey" he meant "a feasibility study, to see whether it was possible" to put a tap on the phone. "I have never been in the Kraft residence." Asked if Caulfield entered Kraft's home, Ragan declined to comment further.

Ragan, according to informed sources, was voted immunity by the Senate committee. A spokesman for Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox said Cox has not decided whether to request a 20-day delay in the immunity grant when the initial 10-day waiting period expires Sept. 24.