

Dash questions compromise

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WASHINGTON — Samuel Dash, chief counsel of the Senate Watergate committee, has questioned whether an agreement actually existed between President Nixon and Sens. Sam J. Ervin Jr. and Howard H. Baker Jr. over Nixon's Watergate tape recordings.

In an interview yesterday, Dash also said he believed the entire Watergate committee would have to approve any agreement on the

controversy, not just Ervin (D-N.C.) and Baker (R-Tenn.), acting as chairman and vice chairman.

According to Dash, Ervin's understanding after he and Baker met with the President Friday was that he would accept only a verbatim transcript of those portions of the tapes dealing with Watergate.

"Senator Ervin never agreed to receive only a summary," Dash said.

Nixon said the three men

agreed that the President personally would prepare a summary of the tapes to be "authenticated" by Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.), who would have free access to them.

Dash, who did not attend the meeting, said he had not spoken with Ervin since Saturday when the chairman had the understanding that the committee would receive a verbatim transcript with only non-relevant matters excised.