

Washington

Representative Paul McCloskey (Rep-Calif.), said yesterday that President Nixon should hire a lawyer "with a thorough knowledge of criminal law."

McCloskey made his comment after attending a special briefing for congressional Republicans by presidential advisers Bryce Harlow, Leonard Garment and Charles Alan Wright. Wright is the University of Texas law professor who has been advising the President.

McCloskey said Wright said he was surprised that special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox insisted on complete access to nine tapes on the grounds that only a verbatim record would stand up in court.

The California congressman said Wright's position was "an appalling indication of the abysmal ignorance of both the President and his staff as to the provisions of criminal law."

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