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Wright Acts As Consultant On Tape Case

By a Washington Post Staff Writer

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif., Jan. 8—The White House said today that Charles Alan Wright was again working as an "active consultant" on the Watergate tapes case.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said that Wright "will be resuming an active consultant role in the matter pertaining to the answer to the amended complaint filed by the Senate Watergate committee."

The committee is seeking five tapes of conversations between the President and former White House Counsel John W. Dean III.

Warren said "it remains to be seen" whether Wright, a University of Texas law school professor and constitutional law expert, also will assist in any White House legal responses to additional subpoenas by the committee seeking nearly 500 Watergate-related documents.

President Nixon rejected the latter subpoenas last Friday in a strongly worded letter to committee chairman Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.).

Vice President Gerald R. Ford has urged that the White House and the committee compromise its differences. Warren, repeating a statement he made Monday, said that any modified request from the Watergate committee would "certainly be evaluated in light of the attitudes reflected in that request."

Sam Dash, chief counsel for the Watergate committee, said no lawsuit will be filed seeking the additional documents until the case of the disputed five tapes is decided. He said also that the request would be scaled down to high-priority items before any lawsuit.

Privately, White House aides have said that Mr. Nixon would welcome a voluntary request for the documents sought by the committee but would not yield to any subpoenas.