

Sen. Scott Says Evidence Exists To Clear Nixon

Washington

Senator Hugh Scott said yesterday he had information that would clear President Nixon of any wrongdoing in some aspects of the Watergate scandals.

The Senate Republican leader made the statement during a television interview but declined to say what the information is.

However, he apparently referred to information that White House aides had mentioned in making similar statements to reporters in the last few weeks without providing evidence to substantiate them.

None of those statements had been published until yesterday, when the Associated Press attributed them to White House sources.

During the interview on CBS' "Face the Nation," Scott twice alluded to some unpublished evidence in declaring that the President has a better defense than he had made so far.

The Pennsylvania Republican, who met with President Nixon on Friday, was asked whether he has information "which gives you the feeling that the President can establish his complete innocence?"

"I have the feeling and information available to me, and I wouldn't want you to misinterpret how complete that is, which would indicate that on specific items the President would be exculpated entirely, yes," he answered.

Later, Scott said:

"I have some information which is not yet public, which is enormously frus-

trating to me, because it seems to me to exculpate the President, but I cannot break through the shell down there of all of his advisers, who feel differently about it, who feel that the President no longer needs to make some of these replies.

"I think it would help if he did. I have found nothing that indicates any guilt on

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the part of the President of a nature that would be impeachable, but I think they'd help themselves if they told the public some of the things that I know."

Scott said that he had urged President Nixon "to let it all hang out" and release the evidence. He did not indicate how the President responded.

The information that White House aides had offered to some reporters was that transcripts of conversa-

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tions between Mr. Nixon and John Dean III, former counsel to Mr. Nixon, rebutted Dean's claims that the President had knowledge of the Watergate coverup before last March 21, the date Mr. Nixon said he learned of the coverup.

However, reliable sources reported that the office of Watergate special prosecu-

tor Leon Jaworski had developed evidence damaging to the President's cause that conflicted with the supposed White House transcript.

While it has not been learned whether the new evidence involves the President personally in illegal acts, Jaworski does have specific information on the attempted White House use of the Central Intelligence Agency to stop the Watergate investigation by the FBI because of "national security," the sources said.

New York Times