

Wayne Denies

IRS Favors

Newport Beach

John Wayne said yesterday he never asked for or received any favors from the Internal Revenue Service, "nor have I needed them."

The actor was responding to a statement made over the weekend by Senator Lowell P. Weicker (Rep-Coun.), a member of the Senate Watergate committee.

Weicker said he has White House and Nixon administration documents to show that IRS tax intelligence was used to protect such "White House friends" as Wayne and evangelist Billy Graham

once tax audits on them had begun.

Wayne said he sent a wire to Weicker.

"I'm sending a telegram to that s.o.b.," said Wayne. "I just thought you's like to hear what it's going to say:

"Senator Weicker, for your information I have never asked for, nor have I received, IRS favors, nor have I needed them. What I need is protection from cheap politicians like you.

"The IRS has reviewed my taxes annually and I deeply resent your using your senatorial privilege in throwing my name around."

Associated Press