

NYTimes
**SENATE AIDES ASK
 WHITE HOUSE CURB**

**Watergate Unit Staff Seeks
 Cut in Presidential Power**

WASHINGTON, April 26 (UPI)—Senate investigators have concluded that excessive secrecy and concentration of power in the Presidency gave rise to the Watergate scandal, and they have drafted recommendations to drastically diffuse that power as a safeguard against any recurrence.

The findings are in a draft of the final report of the Senate Watergate committee, to be submitted to the Senate by the end of May after the seven Senators agree on its final form. A copy of the draft was obtained by United Press International.

The report recommends that White House powers be diluted by giving more independence to Government agencies, particularly the Justice Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Ban on Campaign Activity

One committee source called the draft report an attempt to "curb raw Presidential power." Another said the aim was to "deflate a royal executive branch."

The draft was prepared by a staff group on Presidential powers and approved by senior members of the committee staff. It calls for a ban on political campaign activity by top aides in the White House and Justice Department.

One proposal is for the creation of a permanent special prosecutor, operating independently of the Justice Government officials accused of wrongdoing, especially in political campaign matters.

The report recommends giving Congress more powers, particularly in overseeing activities of Government agencies and maintaining controls over White House spending.

It suggests that a number of top White House jobs be made subject to Senate confirmation, particularly that of chief of the Domestic Council, the job once held by John D. Ehrlichman, a former Presidential adviser.

Limits on Staff

Other recommendations in the draft include the following:

¶Limit the top White House staff to as few as 15 aides, and no more than 50 professional employes.

¶Prohibit White House "intelligence activities."

¶Limit Presidential appointees in the Justice Department to 10 persons. The current number is 28.

¶Strengthen freedom of information laws to give the press and public added access to government information.

The report rejects the idea of amending the Constitution to restrict Presidential power.