

Doar Says Nixon Hasn't Told It All

Washington

The chief counsel for the House Judiciary Committee's impeachment inquiry stated emphatically yesterday that President Nixon has "definitely not" given the committee the full Watergate story, despite repeated White House assurances that he has.

Counsel John Doar told newsmen he will recommend that the committee issue a subpoena demanding the 76 tapes of White House Watergate conversations the committee requested last month.

The President's lawyer, James D. St. Clair, turned down his request Tuesday and said that no further Watergate materials will be turned over, even if subpoenaed, because the President feels the committee has the full story.

More than any member of the committee, Doar knows what material has been obtained and what gaps remain regarding the President's involvement in the Watergate break-in and coverup.

The staff will begin presenting evidence on Watergate to the full committee at a series of closed hearings beginning today.

Most members seemed to have adopted a go-slow reaction to the White House turndown on any more requests for Watergate materials.

Representative Edward Hutchinson (Rep-Mich.), senior committee Republican who appeared with Doar and chairman Peter W. Rodino (Dem-N.J.) at a news briefing, suggested that the committee begin hearing the case and find out what gaps need to be filled with more information.

St. Clair will be sitting with the committee as the case is presented, and when the committee decides it needs something it could

turn to St. Clair and ask for it, said Hutchinson.

If the request were turned

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down, a subpoena could then be issued for the specific item, although Hutchinson himself opposes subpoenaing the President as futile on the ground the move is unenforceable.

A number of members of both parties said this idea of piecemeal subpoenas seemed preferable to firing off a blanket subpoena which might be subject to a White House charge of a "fishing expedition."

Rodino seemed in no hurry to issue a subpoena.

He said that next week — when committee members will know what they have

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and lack on Watergate — would be plenty of time.

Rodino left no doubt, however, that the committee will subpoena what it needs.

Doar reacted with unusual vigor when asked whether he had "all the evidence you feel you need to complete the Watergate phase of the inquiry?"

"Definitely not," he replied. He said he will recommend a subpoena because it is "the businesslike, orderly and legal way to proceed."

Rodino said again that if the White House rejects all requests for needed information, committee members could decide whether to make this action an impeachable offense by the President.

Committee Republicans were distressed by the White House refusal to cooperate, but seemed generally agreed that they should start hearing the case and make further requests or issue subpoenas as specific needs arise.

Representative Charles Wiggins (Rep-Calif.), strong defender of the President, said the White House might back down if confronted with individual requests for tapes. "If we are precise and justify our requests in St. Clair's presence, there

might be some relaxation" of the White House position, said Wiggins.

Representative William S. Cohen (Rep-Me.), only Republican to join in a committee declaration last week that the President had failed to comply with a previous subpoena by providing transcripts instead of tapes, agreed. He said it would avoid criticism of a fishing expedition.

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