

Hoffa Loses Bid For Nixon Data

Washington

A federal judge yesterday upheld President Nixon's claim of executive privilege and quashed a subpoena for documents relating to the conditional clemency granted former Teamsters union chief James R. Hoffa.

U.S. District Judge John H. Pratt ruled that Hoffa's attorneys could not "make a strong showing of need necessary to rebut the privilege the President claims."

Pratt said that the material sought by Hoffa's attorneys was irrelevant and that they had already received sufficient evidence to proceed with their case.

Mr. Nixon last week claimed executive privilege in response to a subpoena ordering his chief of staff, Alexander M. Haig Jr. to

turn over documents and records involving the President's commutation of Hoffa's sentence in 1971.

After the hearing, Hoffa told reporters that he did not consider the judge's decision a setback and would be in court tomorrow when his attorneys argue for a summary judgment to lift the restriction.

Hoffa, who has announced his intention to recapture the presidency of the Teamsters if the court lifts his ban on union activities, contends the restriction was a result of a conspiracy between Mr. Nixon, Teamsters president Frank Fitzsimmons and former White House special counsel Charles W. Colson.

Associated Press