

Justice Firm on Kissinger Data; Hill Leaks

Ford, Burch Attack Judiciary Committee

Called 'Out of

Control'

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Leaks of confidential material from the House Judiciary Committee's impeachment inquiry were denounced by high administration officials yesterday as showing the committee is "out of control."

Vice President Ford and presidential counselor Dean Burch met with newsmen yesterday and attacked leaks from committee members during the past week as irresponsible, motivated by desires to impeach President Nixon and justification for the President's refusal to turn over subpoenaed tapes of presidential Watergate conversations.



REP. PETER W. RODINO JR.
... deplures leaks

Their criticism was directed at statements by some committee members last week who said evidence examined by the committee showed that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger "initiated" wiretaps on some of his staff members when he was national security adviser to the President in an effort to stop leaks. This prompted Kissinger to threaten to resign unless his name is cleared.

Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino Jr. (D-N.J.) also deplored the leaks. At a closed committee session and again at a press briefing, he emphasized the need to protect confidentiality of sensitive materials and to

retain public confidence in the committee's work.

Rodino said he could not control the actions of individual committee members, all of whom have access to all the material assembled by the committee's staff. He said the committee has in the main conducted itself responsibly and said he expected it would be judged on the totality of its work, "not on one leak."

Leaks have ranged from members' recollections of what they have heard or read in the closed evidentiary hearings to three instances where copies of documents were made available to one or more reporters.

See **IMPEACH, A7, Col. 1**

IMPEACH, From A1

The controversy over Kissinger's role in the tapping of some of his staff's telephones from 1969 to 1971 was revived last week when Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa.) and others emerged from a closed committee session and said Kissinger had "initiated" the taps.

On Tuesday, documents relating to the taps were made available to The Washington Post. A memorandum on another matter citing confidential transcripts to show that the White House had deleted relevant comments by the President during Watergate conversations was made available to the Los Angeles Times.

The Ford-Burch meeting with newsmen, arranged by White House communications director Ken W. Clawson, appeared a concerted effort to portray a bad performance by the committee.

Burch called the Kissinger leaks the old McCarthy tactic of 20 years ago, only now it should be called "eilbergism." Ford said he suspected ulterior motives by Democrats who want to impeach the President. Both said the leaks show the need to open up the committee proceedings to public view.

Rep. Robert McClory (R-Ill.), acting senior committee Republican, appeared with Rodino at the press briefing to join the chair-

man in denouncing the leaks, but also to insist that "the chairman has not lost control of the committee."

Rodino said the committee will continue through next week to examine evidence assembled by the staff. Then it may call witnesses in open session.

A proposal at yesterday's committee session that it adopt a resolution of confidence in Kissinger was ruled out of order by Rodino as not within the committee's jurisdiction.

The committee received from its staff yesterday a 91-page memorandum detailing Mr. Nixon's actions in impounding—refusing to spend—appropriated funds during his years in office. Some members want to impeach the President for trying to change national priorities by disregarding Congress' action in its constitutional role as controller of the purse. The staff memo drew no conclusions, but the staff earlier had suggested that the President's actions did not appear serious grounds for impeachment because he had complied with every final court order to release the money.

The committee finished hearing evidence yesterday on the break-in of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office and began an examination of alleged attempted use by the White House enemies or help Revenue Service to harass White House enemies or help the President's friends.