

Dean May Get Delay on Sentencing

Washington

The Watergate special prosecutor's office said yesterday it won't oppose a delay in the sentencing of former White House counsel John W. Dean, scheduled for today.

On Tuesday, attorneys for Dean asked U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica to postpone the sentencing of Dean, who pleaded guilty eight months ago to conspiracy of obstructing justice in the Watergate coverup case.

Dean's lawyers asked Sirica to first listen to 64 taped presidential conversations before deciding Dean's punishment.

Sirica is currently reviewing the tapes under a unanimous Supreme Court decision ordering the White House to turn them over for the trial of the coverup case, scheduled to begin September 9.

Charles Shaffer, an attorney for Dean, said in an affidavit filed with Sirica that the new tapes may show Dean acted as "an agent and sub-agent rather than a principal."

Associated Press
