

Mitchell Trial Delay Hearing

Washington

U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica agreed yesterday to hear demands by Watergate coverup defendants that their September trial be delayed because of the publicity surrounding former President Nixon's resignation.

Sirica set a hearing for Monday morning on motions for a postponement filed by two of the chief defendants, former Attorney General John M. Mitchell and former White House domestic adviser John D. Ehrlichman.

At the same time, Sirica continued to review presidential tapes subpoenaed for the September 9 trial and continued releasing tape recordings to special prosecutor Leon Jaworski for possible use as trial evidence.

By the end of the day, Sirica had directed that ten more tapes go to Jaworski, bringing to 23 the number he has forwarded to the prosecutor since Mr. Nixon surrendered 55 taped conversations under terms of a supreme court order.

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