

Haldeman's Petition to High Court

Washington

The federal grand jury that indicted defendants in the Watergate coverup case was improperly extended and thus its charges are invalid, attorneys for H. R. Haldeman said yesterday in a petition to the Supreme

Court.

Lawyers for the former White House chief of staff asked for a lower court review

At the same time, another coverup defendant, John D. Ehrlichman, was turned down by a second Supreme

Court justice who had been asked to delay the trial, now scheduled to begin September 30.

Justice William O. Douglas gave no reason for rejecting the appeal of Ehrlichman's lawyers, who had earlier asked Chief Justice

Warren E. Burger to grant a delay on grounds of pre-trial publicity.

The Haldeman petition said the Watergate grand jury should have been allowed to expire once its normal term of 18 months had run out.

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