

Nixon Data

Subpoenas Postponed

Associated Press

The Senate intelligence committee has decided to postpone the deadline on its subpoenas for tape recordings and documents from former President Nixon's files, a committee spokesman said yesterday.

The decision was made in response to a federal appeals court decision Friday permitting a lower court to rule on a White House request to search the Nixon files for the material sought by the Senate panel, according to the spokesman.

The committee subpoenas would have required that materials on Nixon's policy toward Chile and the planning of domestic intelligence operations be produced by today.

White House counsel Phillip W. Buchen and General Services Administrator Arthur F. Sampson, official custodian of the Nixon files, are expected to notify the committee formally of the appeals court ruling at a meeting scheduled for today, the spokesman said. Committee representatives will assure Buchen that they will not enforce the subpoena as long as he "expeditiously pursues" the case, the spokesman added.

Friday's ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia sent the case back to the U.S. District Court to decide whether the White House has the authority to search the Nixon materials, which are the subject of a complex legal battle to decide whether they are owned by the government or by Nixon.

In a brief filed with the U.S. District Court Monday, Buchen indicated that he would comply with the Senate subpoenas if permitted to search the Nixon files.

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