

Haldeman, Nixon Testify On Wiretap

Los Angeles

Former White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman was questioned yesterday by a team of attorneys fresh from a similar session with former President Nixon.

Haldeman gave a deposition in a wiretapping damage suit brought by former National Security Council aide Morton Halperin.

Halperin is suing Mr. Nixon, Haldeman, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and other government officials over a wiretap the former president has admitted ordering placed on the telephone of Halperin and 16 other government aides and journalists.

Haldeman told reporters he is spending his spare time writing a book on his days in Washington. He said the uncompleted work "would have some things you haven't heard yet" concerning the Watergate scandal, which felled the administration of which he was a part.

Although Halperin's attorneys have declined to give an exact figure on potential damages in the case, they said it could exceed \$3 million.

Halperin is seeking \$100 a day civil damages each for himself, his wife, Ina, and the couple's three children for the 21-month period the tap was in place in 1969 through 1971.

Halperin's attorneys questioned former President Nixon for seven hours Thursday at his seaside villa in San Clemente.

Both sides in the suit have agreed not to discuss testimony given in the case prior to the trial, expected to begin this spring in Washington.

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