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# Ford's Watergate Remarks Challenged

Washington

Former Senate Watergate counsel Sam Dash accused President Ford yesterday of making "misleading and inaccurate statements" about Mr. Ford's role in blocking an early Watergate investigation.

Dash, counsel to the Senate Watergate committee during its 1973 hearings, held a news conference to announce results of a questionnaire the Citizens' Committee for Watergate Reform

sent to Mr. Ford and Jimmy Carter.

Asked about Mr. Ford's role as House Republican leader in blocking an early congressional Watergate investigation, Dash said: "There are a number of misleading answers that have been given by the President."

He questioned Mr. Ford's statement that Attorney General Edward Levi and the Watergate Special Prosecutor had "cleared him" of allegations that he blocked the probe under pres-

sure from the Nixon White House.

"Those were misleading and inaccurate statements," Dash said.

He said Levi simply "decided not to make an investigation," and special prosecutor Charles Ruff "said it was not in his jurisdiction."

Dash said demands for Levi to investigate Mr. Ford put Levi into a "conflict of interest" because he is a Ford appointee.

On the questionnaire, he said Carter "stated his full support with a single minor qualification" for the committee's Watergate reform suggestions, while Mr. Ford had "certain questions as to the constitutionality and other practical problems."

The citizens' committee includes Dash, former Watergate prosecutor Henry Ruth and others. Dash described as interested in "official lawlessness and governmental corruption."

United Press