

You are hereby requested to appear before the Subcommittee as a witness at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 30, 1971 in Room 2247, Rayburn House Office Building. Your vast experience in the news field and the unique position you now hold in the present Administration will make your testimony particularly valuable to the Subcommittee.

In addition to your general views and comments on the broad scope of our inquiry, please be prepared to discuss the ways in which your office functions in its coordinating role in the dissemination of information to the public generally and what role your office plays in coordinating request for both routine and classified material by Congress.

Please be prepared to discuss also the extent of Executive compliance with the instructions issued by President Nixon on April 7, 1969 establishing procedures in the handling of Congressional demands for information. Please explain also what role your office has in enforcing the procedures set forth in that April 7, 1969 Memorandum.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D.C., June 21, 1971.

HON. JOHN WESLEY DEAN III,
*Counsel to the President,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. DEAN: The Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee has scheduled a series of hearings to begin Wednesday, June 23, 1971, on U.S. Government information policies and practices.

Pursuant to the Subcommittee's legislative and investigative authority over Government information subjects, we will explore the Constitutional principles and operational practices involved in the public's "right to know" and the right of the Legislative Branch to information and documents from the Executive Branch that are deemed essential in the discharge of our duties as elected representatives of the American people.

You are hereby requested to appear before the Subcommittee as a witness at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 30, 1971, in Room 2247, Rayburn House Office Building.

In addition to your general views and comments on the subjects included within the scope of our inquiry, please be prepared to discuss procedures and practices concerning the coordination of Executive implementation of the provisions of Executive Order 10501 (18 F.R. 7049) and Executive Order 10964 (26 F.R. 8932), relating to "Safeguarding Official Information in the Interests of the Defense of the United States," and the automatic downgrading and declassification procedures for documents, information, and other security material presently in effect.

With best regards,
Sincerely,

WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD,
Chairman.

[Excerpt from hearings entitled "U.S. Government Information Policies and Practices—The Pentagon Papers" (pt. 3), before a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives, 92d Cong., 1st sess., p. 896]

Mr. MOORHEAD. I would also like to submit for the record, following the letters of invitation to the witnesses, the letter to me from Mr. John W. Dean III, Counsel for the President, declining our invitation to testify, on behalf of himself, Dr. Kissinger, and Mr. Herbert Klein.

[The letter follows:]

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, June 28, 1971.

HON. WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD,
Chairman, Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee, Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your letters of June 21, 1971, to Dr. Henry Kissinger, Mr. Herbert Klein and myself requesting that we appear before your subcommittee on June 30, 1971. I wish to advise you that, as members of the immediate staff of the President, we must respectfully decline the invitation to testify.

Sincerely,

JOHN W. DEAN III,
Counsel to the President.

Mr. MOORHEAD. I also have been asked to keep the record open for insertion of relevant articles, statements, and studies to be inserted in the hearing record. Without objection, that will be so ordered.

These hearings will not close at this time. We expect to have testimony from the State Department now that the Supreme Court has handed down its decision, so the subcommittee will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

(Whereupon, at 1:20 p.m., the hearing was adjourned to reconvene at 2 p.m., Thursday, July 7, 1971.)

(247-C(e))

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS
AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D.C., February 11, 1972.

HON. HERBERT G. KLEIN,
*Director of Communications,
The White House, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. KLEIN: Early next month the Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee will begin a comprehensive series of hearings into the administration and effectiveness of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). A copy of the Committee's press release announcing these hearings is enclosed.

The hearings will begin with panel discussions by leading experts in the fields of Government information policies and practices, in the legal ramifications of subject areas covered by the Act, and in the importance of the free flow of information about the activities of the Federal government to help inform our citizens.

On behalf of the Members of the Subcommittee, we would like to extend this invitation to you to participate in our panel discussion of experts in the field of Government information policies, practices, and problem areas in dealing with the public, the media, the internal agency bureaucracy, and the Congress.