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Washington, June 9 (RHC)-- The former director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, James Comey, has told the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee that he was concerned about President Trump's requests for him to drop an investigation into one of his security advisers.

Speaking at the hearing, Comey said: "I don't think it's for me to say whether the conversation I had with the president was an effort to obstruct. I took it as a very disturbing thing, very concerning".

The two men held private talks nine times before Comey was fired by Trump on May 9th. Comey took many notes because he said he was "honestly concerned" that the president might lie about their discussions. Comey released the transcript of his testimony prior to his testimony yesterday.

In it, he accused Trump of asking him to drop an investigation into the former national security adviser Michael Flynn, part of a wider probe into alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. He also said Trump asked him whether he wanted to stay on as FBI director during a private dinner at the White House on January 26th, telling Comey "I need loyalty, I expect loyalty."

The Senate panel's top Democrat, Senator Mark Warner, said in his opening statement on Thursday that Comey's testimony is "disturbing" and showed Trump violated guidelines to prevent White House

interference in FBI investigations.

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