

New Probe in 'Nixon Tap' Case

Las Vegas

The Justice Department revealed yesterday it will investigate the possibility that telephone conversations between President Donald Nixon and a former Howard Hughes aide were tapped.

The result of the investigation could establish whether or not President Nixon had been defamed by the unauthorized disclosure of his conversations with Hughes.

However, it could also establish whether or not the disclosure of possible tapping conversations between President Nixon and Hughes would be in the public interest.

CLARIFY

Major attorneys for the president have asked the Justice Department to clarify the scope of any possible non-authorized tapping of President Nixon's conversations.

Justice Department officials are investigating whether or not the disclosure of possible tapping of conversations between President Nixon and Hughes would be in the public interest.

"I can't recall any conversations with the president which have been disclosed," said a Justice Department spokesman.

He said that there are no basis for the disclosure of any conversations between President Nixon and Hughes.

Nixon and Hughes were both in Las Vegas in the Hughes Tower in the summer of 1970, and it is possible that they were in the same building.

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