Nixon Won't Yield Further Tape Data

Stage Set For New Showdown

By Richard L. Lyons Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon will turn over no more records of taped White House Watergate conversations to the House Judiciary Committee or to the Watergate special prosecutor, the President's lawyer, James D. St. Clair, said yesterday.

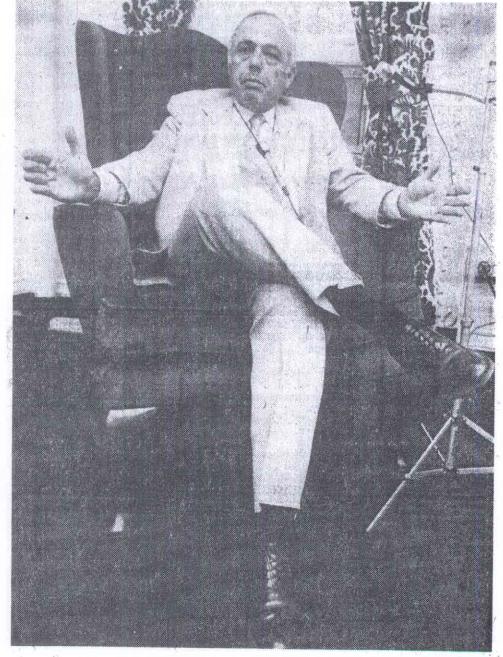
St. Clair told reporters that if the House Judiciary Committee issues a subpoena demanding 76 more Watergate tapes it has requested for its impeachment inquiry the President will not comply.

"Then we would have a confrontation," St. Clair said. But he said he did not believe refusal to comply would be an impeachable offense.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter W. Rodino (D-N.J.) said he believed the committee "will be adamant in seeking this material." This was a clear indication that he expects to subpoena the tapes. His staff has said failure to comply could be an impeachable of-

The White House had indicated for weeks that it would not give the Judiciary Committee any more Watergate tapes or transcripts, but it had made no flat turndown until St. Clair did so yesterday.

There was some indication Monday that an accommodation might be worked out over Watergate Special Prosecutor



United Press International

Presidential lawyer James D. St. Clair tells reporters there'll be no more data.

Leon Jaworski's subpoena of 64 Watergate tapes. St. Clair said Jaworski approached him on this Sunday, and a court delay for talks was granted Monday.

But St. Clair said yesterday that Mr. Nixon has turned this down and instructed St. Clair to move forward with his motion to quash Jaworski's sub-

Ultimately, the case will go

o the Supreme Court.

The reason for the Presiient's decision, St. Clair said, s that "the President has made available to the public what he believes is the full

Watergate story."

Both the committee and Jaworski have obtained some Watergate tapes from the White House. A week ago the President also made public 1,254 pages of edited Watergate tapes, which he said would show he was innocent of involvement in the cover-up of the Watergate break-in.

Many of the 76 tapes requested by the Judiciary Committee and the 64 subpoenaed by Jaworski are the same.

See IMPEACH, A16, Col. 3

IMPEACH, From A1

They cover a period of about a year, starting June 20, 1972, Judiciary Committee's subthree days after the break-in poena demanding tapes and the 76 additional Watergate mony on Watergate, then goof Democratic National Com. other records of 42 presidenmittee headquarters in the Watergate complex.

Jaworski said he needs the tape for proecution of the Watergate cover-up trials, involving several of Mr. Nixon's former top aides, which are scheduled to begin in September. He must now detail, in court hearings on St. Clair's motion to wipe out the subpoena, exactly why they are needed.

The Judiciary Committee wants the tapes to help determine whether Mr. Nixon was involved in the Watergate cover-up, and if so whether he should be impeached.

St. Clair did not turn down the Judiciary Committee's separate request for taped White House conversations on the International Telephone & Telegraph Corp's settled antitrust suit or the question of whether the dairy industry made big campaign contributions in exchange for higher milk price supports. But he added: "We don't believe any of these tapes exist, but we will look."

White House release of the the tial conversations. The White poenaing the President as a House contended that this consubpoena, but the committee, by a vote of 20 to 18, contended that it did not, because the committee wanted to hear tapes, not read edited transcripts.

Now. St. Clair has announced in advance that the mittee that "will certainly be White House will not comply with a subpoena if it is issued. for the Republican party." The Committee has decided it has no practical way to enforce a subpoena, except perhaps make it an impeachable sion evidence assembled by its offense.

St. Clair told reporters that the only basis for further requests would be a desire by some to erode the presidency, for the staff to present eviand the President is not going to stand for it."

St. Clair met with a group of reporters covering the Judiciary Committee in the Executive Office Building at the invitation of Ken W. Clawson, hear witnesses and debate the President's director of and vote on the issues, communication.

tapes, but is opposed to subfutile act that could only prodsettle nothing.

But Rep. Tom Railsback (R-Ill.), a senior committee member, called St. Clair's rejection "most unfortunate." He predicted thaat it would provoke a confrontation with the combad for the country as well as

The Judiciary Committee is to meet Thursday at 1 p.m. to begin hearing in closed sesstaff on whether Mr. Nixon should be impeached for Watergate or other matters.

The original plan had been dence covering all allegations against the President, ranging from Watergate to bombing Cambodia, in one series of closed hearings. Then the committee was to open its doors to

Rodino said yesterday that Rep. Edward Hutchinson (R- the committee may instead Mich.), senior Republican on take the case by topics-hear-

Judiciary Committee, ing confidential Watergate mass of edited transcripts last would not comment on St. material in closed session for week was precipitated by the Clair's announcement. Hutch a few days, then opening up inson approved the request for for public discussion and testiing secret again to hear staff evidence on other allegations. Late yesterday he said the forstituted compliance with the uce confrontation that would mat for proceeding was still 'up in the air."