

Role of Teachers Cited

POST 10/26/77

## NEA Head Assails Nixon on Ethics

Associated Press

The head of a national teachers organization has written President Nixon asking him how the nation's 2.2 million teachers can impart ethical values while he himself "disregards . . . high standards of morality."

Helen D. Wise, president of the National Education Association, told Mr Nixon Wednesday the nation's teachers "share the groundswell of pub-

lic outrage" at the administration's handling of Watergate.

"Teachers are asking me how they can fulfill their responsibilities in teaching young people the moral, ethical, and spiritual values required in a free society while the President of the United States disgegards the nation's traditionally high standards of morality," she wrote.

She said that teachers were "heartened . . . by your decision to release the celebrated

secret Watergate tapes for judicial review. This action has helped restore some of the lost confidence in your ability as the moral and spiritual leader . . .

" . . . you need not be a prisoner of your past record. The nation is demanding that you restore the confidence of the nation in the integrity of its leaders. You need only to turn to the people and relate to their pressing daily needs," she wrote.