

TV Editor Says He Got Tip on Tapes

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By George Lardner, Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

A television news editor says he was told in advance at a Georgetown party this week that one of President Nixon's tapes would be played there.

The hostess of the party said that she may have given

that impression to her guests, but that it was, at most, an assumption on her part.

The playing of the tape for about five minutes was acknowledged in federal court Wednesday by William A. Dobrovir, a Washington attorney who has been suing the admin-

istration over a controversial 1971 increase in milk price supports.

He said he had a cassette copy with him, which he was taking home to play on his own hi-fi equipment, when he stopped off at the party and made the "very foolish mistake" of giving the guests a brief preview.

One of the guests was Kevin Delany, assistant bureau chief here for ABC news, which carried a report of the episode on its Tuesday night broadcasts.

Delany said yesterday he was asked to the party "just to stop by for a drink." But when he got there Monday evening, he said, the hostess told him that Dobrovir "would be coming over later to play a very interesting tape about the milk producers."

Delany said Dobrovir arrived about half an hour later. The ABC editor said the host-

ess had a tape recorder of her own, but it didn't work. Delany said he then went to his own home a few doors away to get the recorder that was actually used.

The tape is of a meeting between President Nixon and dairy industry leaders on March 23, 1971, two days before the administration reversed itself and approved an increase in milk price supports that it had rejected earlier that same month.

Dobrovir said yesterday that he informed U.S. District Court Judge William B. Jones by letter of additional details about the playback. Jones is presiding over the milk suit.

Dobrovir said he told the hostess of the party—when she invited him to it by phone Monday—that "I had the tape, that I was making a transcript of it, and that I was bringing it home to listen to."

He declined further comment. The hostess, Lucille Larkin, said she had the party to show her friends her Christmas tree, and took strong exception to rumors that it was called to preview the tape.

Once he other guests were there, she said she did tell them Dobrovir would be stopping by and that he had the recording. She said she "might just have assumed" that he might play it, but "it was certainly not a party to get together to listen to the tape."

Judge Jones accepted Dobrovir's explanation of the incident at a hearing Wednesday, and said he was sure it wouldn't happen again. Apparently dissatisfied, Rep. Stanford E. Parris (R-Va.) asked the District of Columbia Bar Association yesterday to conduct "a full and complete inquiry" into the matter.