

Nixon Surrenders Requested Tapes

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WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon on Tuesday surrendered the first batch of subpoenaed Watergate tapes to U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica in compliance with last week's historic Supreme Court ruling.

But in doing so, a White House spokesman said, the President will claim that portions of a few of the tapes should be withheld from special prosecutor Leon Jaworski on grounds of national security or executive privilege.

The President's chief defense lawyer, James D. St. Clair, handed over to Sirica for judicial review 11 original reels and copies of 17 conversations. St. Clair said the remaining three conversations due to be submitted Tuesday already were in the court's possession.

The tapes include conversations between Nixon and his

former top aides, H.R. Halde-
man, John D. Ehrlichman and
John W. Dean III, in March
and April 1973.

St. Clair said various notes,
documents and other memo-
randa related to the conversa-
tions would be submitted
Wednesday.

Earlier, Deputy White House
Press Secretary Gerald L. War-
ren said the Supreme Court's 8-
0 decision ordering the Presi-
dent to give up 64 taped conver-
sations to Jaworski permits
Nixon to claim executive privi-
lege regarding specific portions
of the tapes.

Sirica is to screen the tapes
for material he deems relevant
for use as evidence sought by
Jaworski in the Watergate cov-
er-up trial, scheduled to begin
Sept. 9.

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Warren told newsmen the
President personally began re-
viewing the tapes Monday and
spent most of Tuesday morning
listening to the recordings in
the Lincoln sitting room at the
White House.

Asked about the possibility
some of the tapes may contain
gaps, Warren replied, "I'm not
saying there are gaps on these
tapes." But he reminded re-
porters of "the rather primitive
nature of the taping system."

In reviewing the tapes, War-
ren said precautions were tak-
en to make sure Nixon did not
push the wrong button and
erase some of the material.

Warren said the White House
intended to make all of the sub-
poenaed materials "available
as soon as possible."