

White House Won't Detail Tape Access

Post 1/29/74
Associated Press

The White House refused yesterday to list the individuals who had access to tape recordings or transcripts of president Nixon's Watergate conversations.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren was questioned about access to the tapes and transcripts following disclosure that speechwriter Patrick Buchanan and Republican congressional leaders had seen or heard them.

Warren refused to identify those who had done so, saying he was "not in a position to do that There are legal implications."

He repeated previous assertions that the Watergate special prosecutor has the tape recordings, describing that as the "proper forum." He did acknowledge under questioning that copies of the tapes have also been retained in the White House.

Warren was also asked whether the FBI had sought to question the President about the 18-minute erasure on one tape. "I don't believe that has happened," he said.