Inouye Views Nixon and the Public

PORTLAND (Ore.) — (UPI) — President Nixon may win a legal battle but "he would lose an important battle in the court of public opinion," Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) said yesterday regarding the President's efforts not to release the tape on the Watergate affair.

The senator made the remark at a news conference after his public speech at Portland Community College here.

In his speech entitled "Beyond Watergate," Inouye said the more enduring aspect of the Watergate crisis was the opportunity it has

presented and not the danger. He was referring to the Chinese expression of crisis with combined meanings of opportunity and danger.

He said Watergate has presented a common ground for the American people to unite once again after what he called "the decade of division and turmoil" in the 1960s.

The Watergate affair also has helped to revitalize the legislative branch of the government and restore the concept of balance of power, he said.