

Potentially Historic

Supreme Court Begins Term

Washington

The Supreme Court convened without fanfare yesterday for a new term that may take on historic dimensions involving President Nixon's constitutional stand on the Watergate tapes and the grand jury proceedings against Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

The opening-day session lasted only five minutes, marked by introduction of Robert M. Bork as the new U.S. solicitor general and admission of seven attor-

neys to practice before the high court.

Neither the Watergate matter nor the Agnew case is on the court's formal docket but the disputes are before lower federal courts and expected to reach the high tribunal in the new term.

Both could pose legal precedents of monumental constitutional importance.

At issue in the Watergate case is Mr. Nixon's refusal to turn over taped recordings of conversations with aides to either special prosecutor Archibald Cox for use

by a grand jury or to the special Senate investigating committee.

The Justice Department's decision to proceed with a grand jury investigation of kickback and bribery charges against Agnew may also present the court with an unprecedented question.

The vice president has filed suit to block the Baltimore jury inquiry on the ground that no criminal action can be taken against him in any court unless he is first impeached by Congress.

United Press