

House Probers Want 42 More Tapes

Washington.

The House Judiciary Committee has asked the White House to supply, in addition to materials already given to the special Watergate prosecutor, 42 tape recordings of conversations between President Nixon and some of his key former aides, it was learned yesterday.

The requests were contained in a letter from John Doar, special counsel to the committee, to James D. St. Clair, special counsel to the President, on February 25. A portion of the letter containing the list of tape requests was made available yesterday by a White House official.

The official said it was important to correct a general misapprehension that the committee had only asked for six additional tapes. In fact, he said, the committee is seeking a total of 42 tape recordings covering six different subject areas.

In a letter replying to the

committee's counsel, St. Clair said the President believes that the materials turned over to the special prosecutor, which include 19 tapes and 700 documents, are sufficient for the committee's work. However, he did not specifically refuse the additional tapes.

The White House official also asserted that Doar's letter showed that the committee wants "carte blanche to rummage through every nook and cranny in the White House on a fishing expedition."

He referred specifically to a passage of the letter asking that a way be worked out so that members of the committee staff may examine files of former White House aides H. P. Halderman, John D. Ehrlichman, Charles W. Colson and John W. Dean III "for the purpose of selecting materials which, in our opinion, are necessary for the investigation. . . ."

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