

An Overnight Best Seller

3.46 Copies a Minute

By B. D. Colen
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By simply installing a few tape recorders around the house, President Richard M. Nixon has done what thousands of authors have sweated for years to do: He has created an overnight best seller.

By 11:21 a.m. yesterday, three hours and 21 minutes after they went on sale, the 792 copies of the transcriptions of the President's tape recordings had been snapped up by eager readers—at \$12.25 a copy.

The massive volume produced by Mr. Nixon with a little help from his friends bears the title: Submission of Recordings of Presidential Conversations to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, by President Richard Nixon.

And while it is unlikely to set any sort of long-term sales records, the book's initial sales rate of 3.46 copies per minute put even such

nongovernment best sellers as "The Exorcist" to shame.

"I've never heard of anything like it," said Lillian Friedman, hardback buyer for the Brentano's book store chain, when told of the pace of sales at the main Government Printing Office book shop on North Capitol Street between H and I Streets NW.

Edward Brink, manager of book stores for the Government Printing Office, said the GPO "sort of expected" the run on the President's book, because "along with the information contained in it. It's kind of a historical first: what other time in life can you hear what the President says on the telephone?"

Howard Pallik, of Suitland, agreed with Brink that the book has historic importance.

"If the man gets impeached, these could be

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David Mills, a messenger for a law firm, carries away