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GOP Talks Compromise On Tapes

Washington

Republican leaders of both the House and Senate have urged the White House to negotiate more access for the House impeachment inquiry to subpoenaed Watergate tapes.

Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott and House Republican Leader John J. Rhodes, in separate actions, urged negotiations on letting two top impeachment staff lawyers check the tapes against the transcripts President Nixon released publicly.

Scott issued a statement yesterday afternoon urging more House Judiciary Committee access to the tapes.

"I believe any question of verification of material should be worked out to the satisfaction of the House Judiciary Committee," Scott said, "if reasonable cause for the necessity of verification be established by committee-action."

The House committee split down mostly party lines this week in telling the President he had failed to comply with the subpoena for tapes by releasing transcripts instead.

All but one Republican, William S. Cohen of Maine, voted against sending Mr. Nixon a letter notifying him

of the noncompliance.

But House GOP leader Rhodes told newsmen he had advised White House aides Thursday that most committee Republicans want negotiations on letting special impeachment counsel John Doar and Republican counsel Albert Jenner listen to the tapes.

Associated Press