Rodino Unit to Hear Some Nixon Tapes as Hearings Open This Week

NYTIMES MAY 8 1974 By JAMES M. NAUGHTON

ment of President Nixon. week on the possible impeachhistoric hearings later this tape recordings when it begins hear some of the White House House Judiciary Committee will WASHINGTON, May 7-The Special to The New York Times

versations about the Water-gate case would be played for the committee members during day the the first four days of the hear-Committee officials said to-President's recorded conthat six to eight hours of

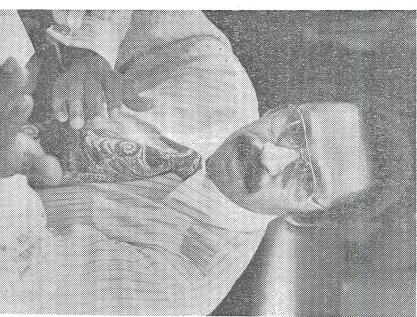
crucial meeting on March 21, 1973, with John W. Dean 3d. Among them is a copy of the original tape of the President's and the Watergate grand jury. staff obtained counsel. the former White House legal March from the White House impeachment 19 recordings in inquiry

Negotiate With White House

dential conversations. lawyers resumed private nego-tiations with the White House capes of about 172 more Presihas been unable to obtain the today over access to evidence, But the committee, whose

sey, said that the opening phase of the hearings would have to be different than planned because of the White House refusal to supply information sought for the inquiry. dino Jr., Democrat of New Jer-Representative Peter The committee chairman, W. Ro-

meetings for four days to rewould then go into closed-door | Watergate Complex here.



United Press International

had committed "an impeachable act," referring to disscripts. He said he was convinced that President Nixon discussing his reding of edited White House tape tran-Representative John Conyers Jr., Michigan Democrat, cussions of payments to Watergate defendants.

Mr. Rodino announced that the hearings would begin Thurs- The break-in occurred at the matters other than the Water issued on behalf of the The ranking Republican of the comby the members in a public headquarters of the Democratic gate case that have been under American Broadcast- effort, calling it "foolhard to session. He said the paniel National Committee in the investigation."

subsequent cover-up attempt volves nearly three dozen ceive from its staff evidence staff had planned to present a negotiations between James D. focused on the June 17, 1972, general view of the entire im- St. Clair, the Prtsident's chief Watergate burglary and the peachment inquiry, which in- defense lawyer, and the com-Originally, the committee been "no sign of progress" in Mr. Rodino said there had senior lawyers,

week to comply with the Jenner Jr. The Presidtnt refused pan-

plied, and madt public, the edited transcripts of 31 of the begin hearings that could deconversations for which the termine the President's future, of 42 Watergate-related be found. White House said tapes could some of its members continud versations and instead

that some consideration might peared too willing to abandon be givtn to the request April some aspects of the inquiry 19 for 66 additional tapes bearing on the President's political relations with milk producers and the International with the convers said the edited mittee's rtquest April 19 for Jr., Democrat of Michigan, who 75 more Watergate-related is a leading critic of the Presitapes would be rejected, but dent, said that Mr. Doar apthis afternoon that the com-Telephone and Telegraph Cor- White House transcripts con-Mr. St. Clair told newsmen tee staff

completed around July 15— Meantime, Representative nearly a month later than had Lawrence J. Hogan, Republican been expected. he expected the inquiry to be based. the Democratic Study Group, Cite Mr. 1912 Consequents an organization of liberal for refusing to supply the tapes Democratic Congressmen, that on which the transcripts were He reportedly told members of again urged that the committee the Democratic Study Group cite Mr. Nixon for contempt inquiry would depend on co-Congressman said was "clearly operation by the White House, an "impeachable act" — and early completion of the House gate investigaion - which the inquiry would depend on co-

Rotating TV Coverage

ing Company and CBS. coverage of the impeachment more like an assistant Demo-hearings when they enter a cratic counsel. networks the three commercial television counsel. A spokesman for CBS Inc. mand than announced in New York that Jenner, would rotate live that Mr.

The Public Broadcasting tinguished counsel on the even Service plans 4gavel-to-gavel of the presentation of evidence coverage of the open impeach- to the committee."

el's April 11 subpoena of tapes telecasts would be live John M. Doar and Albert E. ment hearings, but officials of con- videotaped for later prime-time last said that a decision had sup-airing. yet been made whether the telecasts would be live or the Public Television Network

to complain about the commit-

Representative John Conyers

mr. Rodino has said that the dent had obstructed the Water-

Inc. mand the resignation of apparent success to persuade colleagues on the panel to dethe chief Republican Mr. Hogan charged Jenner was acting

dismiss such an able and dis-