

Dispute Over The Differences

Washington

Two Democratic members of the House Judiciary Committee charged yesterday that significant portions of President Nixon's Watergate conversations had been omitted from edited White House transcripts.

However, the charges of Robert F. Drinan of Massachusetts and Jerome R. Waldie of California was disputed by some Republican members of the committee.

The dispute erupted after the committee had met a third day to hear its staff present evidence that will be considered in a vote on whether to recommend the President's impeachment to the full House.

Both Democrats declined to specify the nature of the missing material.

The tape that they compared to the transcripts was already in the committee's hands before President Nixon handed over transcripts of that recording and others. Drinan said the tape was "much more damaging than the White House transcripts.

"When you hear how they have been planning and plotting, your worst suspicions are aroused," he declared.

One Republican said he did not regard the omissions as serious or deliberate.

"The only thing that was deleted was the expletives, nothing of substance," Representative Delbert L. Latta of Ohio said.

The tape was from a meeting Sept. 15, 1972, between Mr. Nixon, former presidential aide H. R. Haldeman and former White House counsel John Dean III.

Committee chairman Peter Rodino (Dem.-N.J.) said the committee tape, played over sophisticated recording equipment, filled in many of the sections deleted in the White House transcript as "inaudible."

All members questioned said the expletives deleted from the White House transcripts, were, indeed, audible, but said they heard no racial epithets.

Rodino said the presentation of evidence is falling behind schedule set at the opening session last week and that it is now doubtful that public hearings can be held next week.

A.P. & U.P.