

# NIXON MAY MOVE ON ETHNIC REPORTS

Buzhardt Again Denies Use  
of Slurs in Transcripts

By JOHN HERBERS

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WASHINGTON, May 17— J. Fred Buzhardt Jr., counsel to the President, said today that the White House was considering action to show that President Nixon made no disparaging remarks about Jews in recorded conversations submitted to the Federal Court in New York in the recent Mitchell-Stans trial.

"We have not dropped the subject," Mr. Buzhardt said. "We will deal with this in due time."

He would not say what action was contemplated or whether Mr. Nixon planned to make public the recordings in question.

Mr. Buzhardt, in response to questions in a new conference, addressed himself in general to a wide range of reports and rumors recently that President Nixon made disparaging remarks about Jews and other ethnic groups in some of the many recorded conversations at issue in Watergate and related matters.

He referred at times specifically to an article in The New York Times last Sunday that said Mr. Nixon had been reported by sources to have made such remarks about Jews and referred to Federal Judge John J. Sirica as a "wop" in recordings. The White House surrendered these recordings earlier this year to the United States District Court in New York for use in the trial of former Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans.

## Checked Transcripts

On Saturday and Sunday, Mr. Buzhardt declared that the President had not said anything that constituted a "racial slur" and specifically denied that he had used the epithet "Jew boy." However, it was not clear then how long it had been since he had heard the tapes.

Today, Mr. Buzhardt said he listened again this week and checked the transcripts of all of the tape-recorded conversations submitted in the Mitchell-Stans trial. He said the words "Jew boy" had not been used.

"It is not there," he said, and any report that it is "is pure fabrication."

Other than that, he said he got "the feeling in reading The New York Times story" that someone had distorted the President's remarks "to make them appear as racial slurs."

"The quotes used in the story

are not there," he asserted. He said, however, that the word "Jewish" was used. The Times article, based on interviews with a number of sources who had direct knowledge of what was on the tapes, said the President, in a conversation in his Oval Office, had told an aide, "those Jew boys [in the Securities and Exchange Commission] are all over everybody. You can't stop them."

Mr. Buzhardt said the word "Jewish" was not used in the conversation about the S.E.C. but was used in a more general context. He repeatedly refused to specify the language the President used.

He denied that the President

had used the word "wop."

"There was nothing, in my opinion," he said, "that would justify" any of the President's conversations on the tapes as being characterized as "racial slurs."

He kept referring to "racial slurs," a term that was not used in The Times article, which spoke of "ethnic and religious" epithets, or in the questions today. Nor did he define what in his opinion would constitute a "racial slur."

In the 40-minute news conference, Mr. Buzhardt made it clear that he was appearing as the President's lawyer, interpreting the wide range of legal questions discussed in the most favorable light for the President.

At one point he said that the House Judiciary Committee's subpoena for Watergate tape recordings "had been met in its entirety." However, the terms of the subpoena were not met. Rather than turn over the tapes, as subpoenaed, the President submitted edited transcripts that are now in controversy.

Asked how he could make such a statement, Mr. Buzhardt said the committee had "received the substantive material subpoenaed."