

Nixon Is Disputed  
On Bid for Tapes

Prosecutors Say He  
Does Not Need Them  
For Trial

by Diane Henry  
[Special to NYT]

Washington, Oct. 29  
- Lawyers for the  
special prosecutor's  
office said today that  
former President  
Richard M. Nixon's  
assertion that he  
needs his original  
tapes and documents to  
prepare for his  
possible testimony at  
the Watergate cover-up  
trial was baseless.

Last week, Mr.  
Nixon's lawyers filed  
a motion with the  
court, saying that the  
former President  
needed the original  
documents because it  
would take weeks to  
take weeks to reproduce all the  
ones he might need, and such a  
delay would "deprive Mr. Nixon  
of a genuine opportunity" to  
review his materials before he  
was called upon to testify.

Judge Charles R. Richey of  
Federal District Court issued a  
temporary restraining order on  
Oct. 21 barring the removal of  
the tapes and documents from  
the White House but stipulated  
that Mr. Nixon would be al-  
lowed to make copies of all the  
materials he needed to prepare  
for his testimony at the trial.

Lawyers from the special  
prosecutor's office said in a  
motion filed with the court to-  
day that if the court granted  
Mr. Nixon's request for the ori-  
ginal documents, it "would un-  
dermine the interests protected  
by the temporary restraining  
orders without significantly  
easing the task of Mr. Nixon  
preparing for possible testimo-

The arguments may be re-  
solved by Judge Richey next  
Monday, when he is scheduled  
to hold a hearing on the tapes  
and documents.

Mr. Nixon's lawyers said that  
his notes and Presidential me-  
morandums were stored in 38  
boxes with about 2,500 sheets  
of paper per box.

The lawyers said that it  
would take three weeks for one  
person to reproduce this mater-

ial. In addition to Mr. Nixon's  
personal files, there are 103  
boxes of materials from Mr.  
Nixon's office that he says he  
needs to review, according to  
the lawyers. There are 950 tape  
recordings that would take  
nearly 285 hours to reproduce,  
according to the papers Mr.  
Nixon filed in court.

The special prosecutors con-  
tended, however, that Mr. Nixon  
did not need copies of all do-  
cuments and records of his Ad-  
ministration to prepare for his  
testimony. They also said that  
more than one person could re-  
produce the material to speed  
the production.

Mr. Nixon, who underwent  
surgery today for his phlebitis,  
has been subpoenaed in the  
cover-up trial, but it is uncer-  
tain whether his health will  
permit him to appear.