

## An 11-Record Set

# Plan for an LP Of Nixon Tapes

Washington

A court ruling early this month that designated the White House tapes as public property has provoked a flurry of activity in the record industry.

Several major companies are considering albums of former President Nixon's conversations with his aides. And one company, Warner Brothers Records, detailed its plans Wednesday for packaging the tapes as an 11-LP boxed set, complete with transcripts of the material and possible recorded commentary by actor George C. Scott.

Walter Pincus, a New Republic editor here who has been writing on Watergate and the issue of access to the tapes, has been working on the record project for almost three weeks.

"Journalistically, this is unprecedented," Pincus said. "It's a fascinating thing for a journalist to do. Part of it is to try to do what I'm trying to do in my (New Republic) pieces, only on records this time. The challenge is to make it tell a sto-

ry that's fair and at the same time interesting."

"We're not dealing with rock 'n' roll this time and we're well aware of it," said Stan Cornyn, a Warner Brothers senior vice president. "Speed is not going to be of the essence on this project. We want this to be a serious piece of journalism."

"We're looking for a narrator who will have an image of respect. We're negotiating with George C. Scott right now. First we'll put out a two-record set that will list for \$9.98. Then we'll follow that with the 11-record set that should sell for about \$25."

The legal precedent for a record album of the White House tapes was created when U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell ruled on December 5 that "former President Nixon has no right to prevent normal public access to these public documents which have already been released in full text. His words cannot be retrieved; they are public property . . ."

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