

SIRICA SUMMONS NIXON SECRETARY

White House Aide Says Miss Woods Heard All the Tapes and Typed Transcripts

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 6—
Rose Mary Woods, President
Nixon's personal secretary for
more than 20 years, was sum-
moned today to testify in the
Federal court investigation into
White House tape recordings
and two missing conversations.

One White House aide,
Stephen B. Bull, testified today
that Miss Woods had heard
all the tapes being sought
by the special prosecution force
for the Watergate grand jury
and typed up either full or partial
transcripts of them late
last September.

Another White House official
told Judge John J. Sirica that
Miss Woods presently had 14
recordings of Presidential con-
versations in her desk, eight of
which had been in her possession
for more than a month
rather than locked in the secret
vault in the Executive Office
Building.

Six of the tapes that Miss
Woods has, according to John
C. Bennett, deputy assistant to
the President, relate to a con-
versation between Mr. Nixon
and John W. Dean 3d, then his

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counsel, on April 16, the day
after a similar meeting that the
White House now says went
unrecorded after the tape ran
out.

According to Mr. Dean's tes-
timony before the Senate Wa-
tergate committee, on April 16
he refused to sign two letters
of resignation given him by the
President and told Mr. Nixon
he was unwilling to become
"The White House scapegoat
for Watergate."

Judge Sirica, who summoned
Miss Woods, has been holding
informal fact-finding hearings
in his court for the last week
to explore the sudden White
House announcement that part
of the evidence the President
had agreed to submit to the
judge and the Watergate grand
jury could not be delivered
pursuant to his order.

Douglas Parker, who was the
principal White House lawyer
at today's hearing, indicated
that Miss Woods would appear
voluntarily later this week. So
far, all current White House
aides have testified at the fact-
finding sessions without at-
tempting to invoke executive

privilege to justify remaining
silent.

At the White House this eve-
ning, the deputy press secre-
tary, Gerald L. Warren, had no
comment when asked whether
Miss Woods would be allowed
to testify.

Judge Sirica held a one-hour
closed meeting with the White
House lawyers and prosecutors
after the hearing adjourned. He
said later that he "didn't hear
any objection" to the possibil-
ity of Miss Woods' testifying.

For the first time today,
Leonard Garment, counsel to
the President, and J. Fred Buz-
hardt Jr., special counsel, did
not attend the open hearing,
leading to speculation that the
White House was working on
a new approach to resolving
the tapes controversy. The two
lawyers showed up for the
closed session with Judge Si-
rica, however.

Ties Back to 1947

Miss Woods has known Mr.
Nixon since he entered the
House of Representatives in
1947. She has been his personal
secretary since he became a
Senator in 1951, serving
through three Presidential cam-
paigns, one for Governor of
California and a half-dozen
years as a lawyer and private
citizen.

Mr. Bennett, a retired gen-
eral who is deputy to former
Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr.,

Mr. Nixon's chief of staff, told
the court today that he as-
sumed responsibility for the full
library of White House tapes
last July 18, when the sound
system was turned off and the
Secret Service surrendered cus-
tody of the recordings.

The White House aide said
he had not been given any
instructions about who should
be permitted access to the
tapes and had not been ordered
to keep any records on who
drew the tapes out and returned
them. He did keep a log, how-
ever, which showed that Miss
Woods got six more tapes only
yesterday.

Five of these, he testified,
covered conversations in the
President's Oval Office and the
sixth an exchange in his hide-
away in the Executive Office
Building. All of them related
to the April 16 meeting be-
tween the President and Mr.
Dean, he added.

Until today, the hearing had
focused on a conversation be-
tween Mr. Nixon and Mr. Dean
in the Executive Office Build-
ing on the evening of the previ-
ous day, Palm Sunday. The
White House maintains that the
recorder installed there ran out
of tape after a long active day
and never picked up the talk
at all.

According to his Senate com-
mittee testimony, Mr. Dean
heard the President admit at
that meeting that it had been

"foolish" of him to discuss
clemency for one of the Wa-
tergate burglars.

After the closed meeting,
Judge Sirica said in response
to a question that he "didn't
think there was any question"
that seven of the nine tapes
subpoenaed by the Watergate
prosecutors were still in
existence, even if two of the
conversations had gone un-
recorded.

Earlier, Mr. Bull, a special
assistant to the President, told
the court how he took a dozen
of the tapes to Camp David,
the President's Maryland Moun-
tain retreat, on the weekend
of Sept. 28-29, for Miss Woods
to review.

When Mr. Bull described

how Miss Woods typed up part
or all of the subpoenaed con-
versations in a cabin separate
from the President's residence,
Judge Sirica stopped his testi-
mony briefly to interject an
order that Mr. Nixon's per-
sonal secretary be summoned
as a witness.

Mr. Bull recalled that when
one of the Navy enlisted men
who staff Camp David entered
the cabin Mr. Bull attempted
to hide the tapes and playback
equipment because "I thought
it in the best interests of all
that we not advertise what was
going on."

Mr. Bennett said that of the
dozen tapes that were taken
to Camp David, Miss Woods
had never returned eight.