Tapes Order Is Postponed

U.S. District Judge William B. Bryant yesterday postponed indefinitely the effective date of an order he issued earlier directing the White House to turn over certain presidential tapes from the Nixon administration.

The tapes were scheduled to be turned over today to plaintiffs in a civil suit arising out of antiwar demonstrations here in May, 1971. It was the first such order concerning the production of White House tapes in a civil suit, as opposed to criminal trials.

Judge Bryant delayed the compliance date after a three-hour hearing yesterday pending his rulings on a claim of presidential privilege that was invoked by former President Nixon, and on requests by the government for a continuation of the trial date. The trial is scheduled to begin Monday.