

Inouye Says He Doesn't Need Tapes

Washington

Senator Daniel K. Inouye said yesterday he and his colleagues on the Senate Watergate committee could write "an adequate report" without hearing any secret tapes of President Nixon's conversations with aides implicated in the scandal.

The Hawaii Democrat said he saw no reason for the committee to postpone its full report to the Senate until after resolution of the court battle over the tapes.

"As far as I'm concerned, personally, this is where the difference between a legislative proceeding and a judicial proceeding comes in," Inouye said.

"If this were a criminal matter, I would say that the tapes are absolutely necessary, essential.

"In our case, I think we can proceed and file an adequate report without the tapes."

He made the remarks in a television interview on NBC's Meet the Press.

Inouye also rejected the idea that Watergate or the Senate hearings had threatened the ability of government to concentrate on pressing domestic problems, as Vice President Spiro T. Agnew suggested in a speech Saturday night.

"Every study made so far will indicate that the Congress of the United States has been operating ahead of schedule in many cases," he said. "We have already passed 400 bills and have been in session over 600 hours."

Inouye further defended Congress' performance by saying all major legislation had been considered and that half of the appropriations measures "had either passed or are on their way to the white House."

United Press