

To the Editor:

Like many citizens, both lawyers and laymen like myself, I have read with intense interest Judge Sirica's opinion as you published it today.

If we grant that the law is the true embodiment of everything that's excellent, does Judge Sirica in this case embody the law? If privileged portions of the tapes are to be excised before presentation to the grand jury, surely executive privilege at this level requires in camera examination by no lesser court than the Supreme Court.

Judge Sirica's reference to the grand jury as deriving its authority directly from the people is gratuitous; it is too often a creature of the prosecutor.

How compelling or even admissible is the evidence of tapes subpoenaed from the respondent? It is too easily tampered with certainly to the extent of excision without detection. It may be true that the tapes controversy is a good red herring.

A. L. RUBENSTEIN
East Norwalk, Conn., Aug. 30, 1973