

Will This Record Become a Collector's Item?

'The Altered Nixon Speech'

by Lloyd Shearer

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President Nixon refuses to turn over to anyone, unless definitely ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court, any of the tapes secretly recorded in the White House, Camp David, and the Executive Office Building during the past two years.

Supposedly these tapes were recorded for historical purposes, which means they were meant for public ears, and not only the ears of Bob Haldeman.

The President, however, has changed his mind about their original purpose and has invoked executive privilege, on the grounds that the tapes are ambiguous; moreover, their disclosure would somehow violate the doctrine of separation of powers and endanger the Presidency.

To whom do those tapes belong? The people or the President? In time will the President use them to write his memoirs? Will they go to the Nixon Library which is sure to be built somewhere around San Clemente?

What assurance?

Even more important, if the Supreme Court orders the President to release the tapes either to special prosecutor Archibald Cox or the Watergate Committee, what assurance will anyone have that the tapes in question have not been altered?

Syntonic Research, Inc. of 663 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022, a recording company, has recently released for \$2 a phonograph record of President Nixon in which he plainly says on side one from a tape which has been altered:

"I had prior knowledge of the Watergate break-in. I authorized subordinates to engage in illegal campaign tactics. I accept full responsibility for the break-in and bugging of the Democratic National headquarters... I took part in the subsequent coverup activities. My effort throughout has been burglary and bugging of party headquarters, harassing individuals, and compromising those agencies of government that should be above politics... that is the simple truth."

The title of this recording is "The Altered Nixon Speech." It was produced by Irving



Amidst the tapes controversy, Irving Teibel, shown here in his New York studio, has produced record of speech by President Nixon "to show how easily tapes can be altered."

Teibel, 34, head of Syntonic, "to show how easily tapes can be altered."

"What we did," Teibel explains, "was to take the President's speech of Aug. 15, 1973, in which he explained on TV. his views of the Watergate scandal. We then edited the tape, adding nothing, but rearranging the words in order to change the meaning. The objective was to show what could be done with altered tapes.

For private listening

"Side two of the recording is the unaltered Nixon speech of Aug. 15, 1973. People therefore can play both sides and hear for themselves how editing can distort meaning.

"I have specifically prohibited the use of the recording by radio and TV stations. It is meant solely for private listening in the home. If a radio station wishes to play it, the station must first announce in advance that the recording is an alteration, and it must play both sides of the record."

In its first week of release "The Altered Nixon Speech" sold 20,000 copies. Teibel expects it to become a collector's item and a runaway best seller.