

Nixon Has a 'Good Story to Tell'

Washington

President Nixon has "a good story to tell" about the two missing Watergate tape recordings, presidential aide Ronald Ziegler said last night. He did not say what the story is.

Ziegler said that in "the environment of the confusion" existing in the nation at this time, the White House is finding it difficult to tell the story.

Ziegler cited the Middle East war, the economy and other issues facing the nation as among the "rush of events" that had created the confused atmosphere.

But he said in an interview on last night's CBS News television special,

"The Embattled President," about the absence of the two tape recordings sought by Watergate prosecutors:

"We have a good story to tell there.

"It's difficult, however, to project that story in the environment of the confusion and . . . the turmoil that does exist but I think we will . . . we will be able to succeed in that as time goes along people will understand that we are not dealing with two missing tapes.

"We're dealing with a situation where, as unbelievable as it may seem to some, that because of a combination of circumstances these two conversations simply were not recorded."

United Press