

*Copies of the Tapes*

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8 (UPI) — Conceding concern over the "fragility" of the secret Watergate tapes, a White House lawyer, Samuel Powers, disclosed today that copies of the tapes were being made to make sure that all recordings of subpoenaed Presidential conversations were preserved.

He spoke to reporters after a Watergate prosecutor, Richard Ben-Veniste, said that his office was considering asking United States District Judge John J. Sirica to take custody of the original tapes to safeguard any evidence that might be useful to Federal grand juries.

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