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**Nixon Aide With Access to Tape
Denies Erasure Responsibility**

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 15 — Stephen B. Bull, a special assistant to President Nixon, said tonight that a number of persons in addition to himself had had access to the June 20, 1972, tape recording of which a large

In an interview, Mr. Bull said that he denied "unequivocally" any suggestion that he had erased 19 and one-half minutes from the tape, which contained recordings of conversations involving Mr. Nixon and the two men who were then serving as his chief assistants, H. R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

A panel of technical experts reported today that the erasure had been carried out methodically, thus apparently eliminating the possibility that it had been inadvertently caused by Rose Mary Woods, the President's personal secretary.

That prompted speculation on Capitol Hill and elsewhere that Mr. Bull might have been involved somehow in the erasure, since he, Miss Woods and the President himself had been frequently identified as those with access to the tapes.

Access by Others Alleged

Secret service records introduced in United States District Court here last Nov. 1 showed, for example, that Mr. Bull took 26 tapes from an Executive Office Building safe the preceding June 4 but had never logged them back in.

But Mr. Bull, a 31-year-old former businessman who has worked at the White House since the inception of the Nixon Administration, most recently as appointments secretary, insisted that "a number of other people" at the White House had had access both to the June 20 tape and to the Uner recorder on which, according

to the panel of experts, the erasure was made.

Mr. Bull refused to identify the others.

Further light may be shed on the question of access in the courtroom of Federal District Judge John J. Sirica tomorrow. Two Secret Service agents, Louis B. Sims and Al Wong, will testify where and when the tape recorder was purchased, and by whom it has been used since that time.

Mr. Bull said today, as he had in court last Nov. 6, that he had taken a dozen of the Watergate tapes to the Presidential retreat at Camp David, Md., on the weekend of Sept. 28-29 so that Miss Woods could make transcripts or summaries.

At no time, he said, did he listen to the June 20 tape in any detail. Instead, Mr. Bull explained, his task was to identify, on that tape as well as others, those segments that were believed by the White House to be covered by a subpoena from the Watergate special prosecutor.

Confusion Over Language

Because of some imprecision in the language of the subpoena, the White House at that time believed that only Mr. Nixon's conversation that day with Mr. Ehrlichman — and not his subsequent one with Mr. Haldeman — had been subpoenaed.

Therefore, Mr. Bull said, he played only the Ehrlichman portion of the tape on that weekend. As to the Haldeman portion, in which the erasure and re-recording took place, Mr. Bull said, "I never played that back at all. I never heard it."

His orders to concentrate on the Ehrlichman portion, he said, came either directly or indirectly from Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., the White House chief of staff.