

# White House Said to Screen Data for Rodino Panel

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MIAMI, April 16—The White House is preparing to turn over to the House Judiciary Committee those portions of the subpoenaed tape recordings that the President's lawyers believe would serve as evidence in the committee's impeachment inquiry, according to Administration sources.

Portions dealing with national security or with matters felt to be irrelevant to the President's conduct will reportedly be screened out but identified in a statement being prepared for the committee, these sources added.

Five days ago, the committee subpoenaed 42 taped conversations between the President and various aides in February, March and April of last year.

If the President and his lawyers hold to this plan, it is not considered likely that the committee will find it acceptable.

Both the committee and its staff have agreed that it is probably appropriate that some matters not bearing on the President's conduct be screened out, but they have insisted that the committee have a hand in the screening.

The committee has proposed that its chairman, Peter W. Rodino Jr. of New Jersey; the ranking Republican, Edward Hutchinson of Michigan; the majority counsel, John M. Doar, and the minority counsel, Albert E. Jenner Jr., meet with White House lawyers to conduct the screening.

The White House, however, is going ahead with its own screening while the committee is in recess for the Easter

holidays. When the committee issued the subpoena by a vote of 33 to 3 last Thursday, it set April 25 for the deadline for compliance.

At that time, Ronald L. Ziegler, Mr. Nixon's press secretary, said that the White House would have an answer by about April 25.

"The answer will be comprehensive and conclusive in terms of the President's actions," he said. "We are confident the answer will allow the committee to draw a prompt and just conclusion [to its inquiry], that it will receive the support of the House and bear out the President's statement that he will cooperate consistent with his constitutional responsibilities."

Several sources have said since then that not all of the material subpoenaed would be turned over to the committee. A United Press International report today quoted one high White House official as saying that all of the "hard evidence" would be turned over, but some that did not fit that category would be kept in the White House. That report was confirmed by independent sources.

All of this is consistent with the current White House theme that while the President wants

to cooperate with the investigations, he is insistent on blocking any wholesale search of White House records on the ground of executive privilege.

Another aspect of the House committee's subpoena is that some of the tapes sought may not exist. Several crucial conversations on April 15, 1973, between the President and his aides were never recorded, according to White House officials, because the tape on the recorder in Mr. Nixon's office in the Executive Office Building ran out in the early afternoon.

On that day, he met with aides to discuss Watergate matters. White House officials have declined to say whether other conversations may also be missing from the tapes.

It is considered likely that the confrontation between the White House and the House committee will continue. It is the view of some White House officials that the committee, if it demands all of the material subpoenaed, cannot force the White House to comply. It is the view of some on the committee that such refusal would be an additional ground for impeachment.

President Nixon spent a quiet long weekend at his Key Biscayne, Fla., home.

Meanwhile, there were indications of a growing estrangement between the President and his staff and Vice President Ford.

On Sunday, Mr. Ziegler was quoted in a U.P.I. article as being sharply critical of Mr. Ford for talking about his plans for a Ford Administration if Mr. Nixon resigned or was compelled to leave office. The article said that Mr. Ziegler had characterized Mr. Ford's talk as "inappropriate."

Most reporters had understood Mr. Ziegler to say that it would be "inappropriate" for him to discuss the subject. He was leaving church with the President at the time he was questioned by a television reporter.

An assistant to Mr. Ziegler said in response to questions that he had indeed said it would be inappropriate for him to discuss the subject, but no effort was made by the White House press office to correct the report that he was being sharply critical of the Vice President.

Mr. Ziegler did not respond to an inquiry for a correction. The over-all impression was that the White House was not displeased with the original article.