

Senate Probers Call Transcripts 'Suspect'

Washington

The Senate Watergate committee said yesterday the White House released transcripts of presidential conversations "are suspect" and "neither complete nor accurate."

The committee told the U.S. Court of Appeals it still needs the five tape conversations subpoenaed July 23 last year.

Even the incomplete versions of the five conversations, the committee said, vindicate its claim that the tapes are needed "to inform the public of the extent of corruption in the executive branch."

The appeals court last

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dum to the court. "The public facts demonstrate that the edited versions provided the public are neither complete nor accurate."

The tapes the Senate committee seeks in its second trip to the appeals court are of Nixon conversations of Sept. 15, 1972, Feb. 28, 1973; March 13, 1973, and two conversations on March 21, 1973.

The committee called attention to a note at the end of the September 15 transcript that said "further conversation following unrelated to Watergate."

Said the committee:

"We know, however . . . that use of the IRS to investigate administration enemies such as Democratic party chairman Lawrence O'Brien was discussed."

The committee said that information came from the testimony of John W. Dean III and from the reconstruction of the conversation supplied by presidential lawyer J. Fred Buzhardt.

"There also appear to be significant deletions respecting the February 28 conversation," the memorandum said.

"The committee does not know what material was deleted," the memorandum

continued, "but does know that the entire tape recording of this conversation was given the special prosecutor and the House Judiciary Committee by the President without any claim that parts of the conversation were not related to their inquiries."

The committee said the published transcripts not only delete numerous expletives but that in the five conversations the committee seeks there are 99 assertions that portions cannot be deciphered.

"Fifty-nine of these assertions . . . often concern omissions of what appear to be highly significant comments," the memorandum said, and called attention to House Judiciary Counsel John Doar's statement that the "inaudible" portions can be deciphered by sophisticated equipment.

And, the Senate committee said.

"While the Select committee has made all the materials in its files available to the House Judiciary Committee," the memorandum complained, "the arrangement has not been reciprocal."

Associated Press