

Ford Suggests A Compromise

New York

Vice President Gerald R. Ford said yesterday he hopes a compromise can be reached over special prosecutor Leon Jaworski's demand for 66 Watergate-related tapes.

Ford was asked at an impromptu news conference about U.S. District Judge John J. Siriica's order for President Nixon to turn over the tapes. The White House has said it will appeal the order.

Jaworski seeks the tapes to prepare for the September trial of seven former top administration officials.

Ford said that Jaworski had said he has sufficient evidence for indictments in the Watergate coverup case, in which former Nixon aides H. R. Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman and John N. Mitchell have been charged.

"If he needs more relating to additional evidence for the prosecutions, I hope there will be some compromise with the White House," Ford said.

The vice president's comment was similar to one he had made Monday in Tacoma, Wash., when he said that any tapes relating to criminal prosecutions "ought to be made public."

Ford was questioned at a picture-taking session before receiving the 1974 "Father of the Year" award.

He also was asked about the House Judiciary Committee's subpoena of 11

tapes. As Ford spoke, Mr. Nixon announced he would not comply with the subpoena and said the decision also applies to "such further subpoenas as may hereafter be issued."

Ford said that before commenting he would like to "see or hear the actual contents of the tapes."

Asked whether he would ask President Nixon for them, he replied, "I'll ask someone at the White House to see them." An aide said later Ford meant he wanted to learn the contents of the conversations, rather than hear the tapes themselves or transcripts of them.

In his luncheon speech, Ford hailed Julie Nixon Eisenhower's recent support of the President. "I am moved much more by the human relationships involved than by political relationships."

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