

23 May 1974

"Impeachment Desk" from Pacifica, Washington

Announcer (Dennis Leavitt):At a briefing for reporters [House Judiciary Committee] Chairman Peter Rodino described some of the discrepancies between the White House-edited transcripts [of the White House tapes] and some of the tapes which the committee already has:

Rodino (voice): One, there are misstatements. Two, there are omissions of words or paragraphs. There are mis-attributions of statements made by individuals. There are additions. There are inaudibles. And then together with that, there is a category which we still ~~xxxx~~ are unable to interpret or define, and that is the material which is supposedly unrelated to Presidential actions that has been deleted, and what this material is we do not know.

Announcer.....[after relating that both Ron Ziegler and James St.. Clair had urged Rodino and [minority chairman] Hutchinson some to the White House and listen to the tapes on behalf of the rest of the committee, as offered by the White House]: The Committee though feels that it is unacceptable for just Rodino and Hutchinson to hear the tapes. Counsel John Doar explains why:

Doar (voice): I don't think that it's constitutionally permissible. Every member of the Committee, every member of the House of Representatives is required under the Constitution to make a personal judgment with respect to what's on or what's not on, or what is meant or what is not meant by those recorded conversations. I do not believe that the members of the Committee can, Constitutionally, delegate that authority, that power, ~~responsibility~~ that responsibility to the Chairman and the ranking minority member.

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