

# Accord on Access To Nixon Tapes

Washington

Lawyers for President Ford and the Watergate special prosecutor disclosed yesterday a proposed agreement to make Richard M. Nixon's White House tapes and papers available for criminal investigations without subpoena.

In a joint motion filed in U.S. district court, the lawyers asked that investigators be allowed to make a general review of the materials and directly examine all items relating to current criminal investigations.

A spokesman for the special prosecutor's office said the agreement would afford almost total access to relevant tapes and papers, would eliminate court subpoena fights and would virtually assure the materials would not be transferred to Mr. Nixon in California any time soon.

Although Mr. Nixon — because of Mr. Ford's

pardon — is immune from prosecution for any wrongdoing, the special prosecutor's office is investigating possible illegal actions of others in a number of areas relating to the Nixon White House.

A joint brief filed by the special prosecutors, the General Services Administration, the Secret Service and the White House said that allowing the current restrictions on access to the Nixon materials to stand "would severely hamper if not defeat" the administration of justice.

Mr. Nixon's lawyers, evidently unaware that a new tapes accord was in the wind, meanwhile filed a 59-page brief arguing that an existing agreement should stand that bars dissemination of any of his presidential materials without his consent or a court subpoena.

*United Press*