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Court Asked To Enjoin Act On Tapes

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Richard M. Nixon's lawyer, charging that Congress wanted to inflict a "a measure of punishment" on the former President, yesterday asked the U.S. District Court here for a preliminary injunction against a new law giving the government control of his tapes and papers.

Attorney Herbert J. Miller filed motions and memorandums totaling several hundred pages in opposition to the congressional action of last December. He asked for a three-judge panel to consider the motion for the preliminary injunction.

Lawyers for Nixon and President Ford reached an agreement last fall giving Nixon ownership and control of his official White House tapes and papers. But Congress quickly passed a law giving the government control of the documents, a step designed to assist Watergate special prosecutor Henry Ruth Jr. in his investigations.