

Price

8/3/74

*Aug 3
Speech*

Good evening.

Since the decision by the Supreme Court 12 days ago, ordering me to turn over to the District Court the 64 ~~recorded~~ taped conversations subpoenaed by the Special Prosecutor, I have been in the process of reviewing personally a large number of subpoenaed Presidential conversations, ~~in addition~~ and my counsel have also been conducting their own review.

During this process, a great deal of my time and effort ~~has~~ has been focused on it.

Questions have arisen about my intentions -- about whether there is a strategy, and about what I am going to do.

I have requested this television and radio time in order to bring you up to date on my current plans.

I am very conscious of the erosion that has taken place in the political base that I would need to sustain my position in the House of Representatives. It does appear now that impeachment will be voted by the House, and that the issue will proceed to a trial in the Senate.

As a practical matter,
I accept the virtual certainty of that development, and ~~of~~
~~therefrom~~ I am therefore proceeding on the assumption ~~that~~ that the
issue will ~~be~~ be finally resolved in the Senate.

In reviewing the 64 tapes covered by the Special Prosecutors
subpoena, I have found, with one exception, that they ~~add nothing~~
support what I said on April 29 when ~~a~~ I announced my decision to
make the original transcripts public: ~~x~~ that the evidence already
turned over to the House Judiciary Committee tells the full story
of Watergate, in so far as the President's personal knowledge or
involvement is concerned. With this one exception, they add nothing
~~as~~ significant or substantial. ~~xxxxxxx~~

The one exception is a conversation that I held with H.R.

Because this may represent a significant addition to the Watergate story, I have instructed my attorney to
Haldeman on June 23, 1972. In order to complete the record before
the House, I have ordered that this tape be furnished to
make it available immediately to the House) ... in order to complete
the Judiciary Committee tonight. All 64, of course, are also being

~~xxxxxx~~ turned over to Judge Sirica, in accordance with the order of

the Supreme Court. *As these become public, which they ~~will~~ undoubtedly*
will in the course of the various trials for which they were subpoenaed,
I am confident that the truth of what I have said ^{thus} about them will be
evident.

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That ~~May 22~~ statement of May 22, 1973 was based on my best documentary materials and to recollection at the time, in addition to/sworn testimony by the various people involved.

In reviewing the tape, it is now clear that Mr. Haldeman and I did discuss the political aspects of the situation, and that we were fully aware of the advantages this course of action would have ~~was~~ with respect to limiting possible public exposure of involvement by persons connected with the re-election committee.

I deeply regret that because my previous statements were made without benefit of having reviewed the tape, they were inaccurate.

I did begin a review of the 64 subpoenaed tapes, including this one, in May of this year, but then postponed it pending decision by the Supreme Court. I now recognize this postponement as having been

a grievous mistake, because ~~it~~ as a result my counsel, my staff, and

~~those who advocated my position within the Judiciary~~

Committee did so on the basis of facts that were incomplete.

To put that June 23 conversation in perspective, however, I do

In the course of this part of the review I listened to this tape, but did not focus on it thoroughly. I did not at that time consider it to be consistent with my part of the transcript. I have reviewed it since.

my staff or counsel about any possible concern with it.

completing the