White House Rally Backs the President

By Lawrence Feinberv
Washington Post Staff Writer

About 150 persons, many waving American flags and chanting "Three More Years," rallied outside the White House yesterday in support of President Nixon.

The group ranged from long-haired teen-age Republicans from Fairfax County to middle-aged refugees from Hungary, Cuba and Latvia, to a white-haired lady who said she had marched outside the White House once before — to support women's suffrage before World War I.

The principal organizer of the rally, Harry Simms, said yesterday was the fourth time this fall he had led a group of demonstrators to the White House to show support for the President.

"It started when we saw the impeachment termites go after him in late October," said Simms, a regional chairman of the Montgomery County Republican Party. "These political liberal termites who are trying to destroy the country from within—they get all the publicity. We elected President Nixon, and now we are standing up for him."

The first demonstrators calling for Mr. Nixon's impeachment appeared outside the White House shortly after the President fired Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox on Oct. 20. The largest impeachment march here, on a mild day, Oct. 27, drew about 750 persons.

In yesterday's 43-degree cold, some of the placards carried by the pro-Nixon demonstrators said: "Impeach the News Media," "Impeach CBS," and "The Washington Post Is a Dictatorship."

One woman in long cape had a yellow sign reading: "Impeach Kathryn (sic) Graham," a reference to the publisher of The Washington Post.

Among the marchers was JoAnn Niefeld, Montgomery County Republican chairman, and John Henry Hiser, a former Montgomery County Councilman.

But the marchers also included a group of Chinese-Americans as well as a lange sprinkling of recent European immigrants who said they were active in the Republican party's ethnic heritage groups.

Peter Nelsen, chairman of the Scandinavian Republican National Federation, commented, "After a year of investigations no real substantial charges have been proven against the President. If there was anything really wrong, they would have found something by this time. It's about time we support him."

Nelsen and many other marchers wore buttons from the 1972 Nixon campaign. But one man, Harry Lee, had a yellow "Let's Back Nixon" bumper-sticker from 1960, with a photo of Nixon debating Khrushchev in a Moscow kitchen.

"You see how he's changed with the world situation," Lee remarked.

Several of the teen-aged Republicans in the group said they supported the President because he ended the war in Vietnam.

The high school Republicans led the marchers in cheers for the President.

"Give me an N," shouted Mike McClain, of Woodson High School. And the crowd shouted back, "N." "Give me an I. Give me an X. Give me an O. Give me an N. Who do we want? Nixon."

By Craig Herndon—The Washington Post

Marchers demonstrate their support for President Nixon on signs they carry in procession outside the White House.