

Flood of Telegrams Reaches 350,000

10/30/73
By William Claiborne
Washington Post Staff Writer

Evidently spurred by President Nixon's television news conference on Friday night, the volume of public opinion messages sent in response to the firing of Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox jumped yesterday to a cumulative total of more than 350,000 paid telegrams.

Preliminary tabulation by a few members of Congress who have received the bulk of the telegrams indicated that many of the messages continued to advocate impeachment of the President.

Western Union Co., which served as a barometer of public sentiment in the controversy, said 45,700 new public opinion telegrams and Mailgrams were sent here after Mr. Nixon's news conference, 25,200 of which went to Capitol Hill.

Presidential press spokesman Gerald L. Warren, who said following the news conference that White House telephone lines were "flaming" with expressions of support for Mr. Nixon, declined again yesterday to provide a statistical breakdown of the 13,500 telegrams that Western Union said were delivered there over the weekend.

"There was more support than opposition," Warren said, adding that the White House did not intend to be-

come involved in a "numbers game" on the question.

The greatest volume of telegrams sent to Capitol Hill apparently has gone to Sen. John V. Tunney (D-Calif.), who reported receiving a cumulative total of 16,889 messages favoring impeachment and 1,092 against it. Since Friday night, Tunney's office said, the tally has been 735 for impeachment and 67 against.

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), who since the firing of Cox has received 13,240 impeachment telegrams and 599 supporting Mr. Nixon, reported that since the news conference he received 469 telegrams supporting impeachment and 60 supporting the President.

Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.) received 8,729 for impeachment and 227 supporting the President just prior to the news conference, but an aide said a tally since then was not available. However, the messages received since Friday were "overwhelmingly against" Mr. Nixon.

Sen. James L. Buckley (R-Cons.-N.Y.), whose staff has not yet counted Saturday's messages, said the telegram total before the news conference was more than 7,000, with 95 per cent advocating impeachment of the President.