

KENNEDY WON'T RESIGN

Hints He's Out Of '72 Race

Examiner News Services

BOSTON — Sen. Edward Kennedy said today he will remain in the Senate and seek re-election next year. But apparently he has decided not to run for the presidency in 1972.

A statement from his office said that if re-elected Kennedy, 37, will serve his entire six year term, which would end in 1976 — itself a presidential year.

Kennedy's announcement came five days after a dramatic television appeal last Friday when he told a nationwide audience that he was considering resigning from the Senate.

He went on TV only a few hours after appearing in District Court in Edgartown on Martha's Vineyard Island, where he pleaded guilty to a charge of leaving the scene of a fatal accident.

HIS STATEMENT

Mary Jo Kopechne, 28, of Washington, drowned in Kennedy's car when it plunged off a narrow bridge and sank to the bottom of a tidal pool. Kennedy escaped, but did not report the accident for more than nine hours after he said it happened.

The statement released by Kennedy's Boston office today read:

"Senator Edward M. Kennedy is returning to Washington to resume his duties as United States Senator and Assistant majority leader.

"He is grateful to the people of Massachusetts for



SEN. KENNEDY

Does not plan to quit

their expressions of confidence and expects to submit his record to them as a candidate for reelection in 1970.

"If reelected he will serve out his entire six-year term."

It was the final sentence which indicated he has abandoned plans for seeking the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1972.

ELECTED IN '62

Kennedy first was elected in 1962, succeeding Benjamin Smith, a Harvard roommate of John Kennedy who was appointed to the Senate after John Kennedy was elected President in 1960.

Edward Kennedy won his first full term in 1964, five months after he broke his back in a plane crash in poor weather while flying to the state Democratic convention. An aide and the pilot were killed.