

kcbs, San Francisco
10:30 a.m. PDT news

Nixon

4 July 1974 3

Announcer (Sharon Lovejoy): Julie Nixon Eisenhower says her father considered resigning over Watergate, but his family talked him out of it. They felt it would be an admission of wrongdoing and that he was needed in the Presidency,. She said the question of the President resigning came up at a family gathering at Camp David on May 4. "He was playing the devil's advocate one evening," she said. "He said, 'Well, the thing is, he really loves the country and he'd do anything that was best for the country.'"

She said, "You know, he would say, 'Should I resign? Would it be better for the country? Would the wounds heal faster? Would the country be able to move faster to other things?'" Julie said, "He is really that kind of person. I think it was more than just a rhetorical question," she said. "I think he really thought, 'Will this end everything?'"

She dismissed as ludicrous the White House "political enemies" list disclosed in the Senate Watergate hearings and said "the President is too busy to be consumed with petty, paranoid concerns." She said, "something like the political enemies list just drives me up the wall, because I really believe my father is not that kind of person." She said, "I think events are going to vindicate him. I'm really not concerned. I believe that."

[CBS network news said at noon PDT that the statement was made in an interview with AP and UPI reporters.]

Long report on press conference by Frances Lewine, AP, "Nixon Talked About Quitting, Daughter Says," SFChronicle 5 Jul 73, filed Watergate.

Nixon 'Never Serious' on Resigning - SFChronicle 6 Jul 73, filed Watergate.