

New York

Richard Nixon claims in the fourth and last installment of his current television series that he resigned as president because "I wanted to get the whole Watergate obsession, which had then reached fever heat, cooled down," according to Newsweek magazine.

Nixon, explaining his resigna-

tion, makes no reference to the impeachment proceedings then under way, but gives the impression that his departure from the White House was voluntary, the magazine reported yesterday.

The interview with British television personality David Frost will be broadcast Wednesday night.

The former President also ad-

mits that he and secretary of State Henry Kissinger held a tearful prayer session on their knees and that he had sworn Kissinger to secrecy, Newsweek reported. The praying was revealed in the book "The Final Days," by Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

Nixon says that two days before he resigned he had calls and

---

## Days

letters from H.R. Haldeman and John Erlichman recommending that he include pardons for everyone connected with Watergate with a general amnesty for Vietnam draft-dodgers and dissenters.

"The second part of it was totally out of the question as far as I was concerned," Nixon says. "As

Back Page Col. 1

### From Page 1

for the first part, I would like to have been able to have found a way to help ... but I was resigning office for primarily the reason that I wanted to get the whole Watergate obsession, which had then reached fever heat, cooled down ... If my last act was to pardon everybody who was in Watergate ... that would inflame the situation and also would obviously look like the ultimate coverup."

Newsweek said Nixon denies any knowledge of improper tax

returns; but the magazine added "His pained facial expression apparently undercuts his case. The visual impact is as important as what you hear."

Meanwhile, Time magazine reported yesterday that Nixon tells Frost in Wednesday's interview that Spiro Agnew always maintained his innocence of the bribe-taking charges that forced him to resign as vice president.

The magazine quotes Nixon in its latest issue saying of his vice president, who resigned in October, 1973, and pleaded no contest to a federal tax evasion charge: "He did tell me ... to the very last, that he did not feel that he was guilty."

Time said Nixon asserts that when he discussed the bribery charges with his vice president, Agnew tried to pass it off as a common practice.

"According to Nixon, Agnew insisted he had never accepted such money 'while he was in the White House' and that anyway, 'Half of the members of the Senate who have served 'as governors' had accepted kick-backs from contractors,'" Time said.

Associated Press