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Wednesday, September 11, 1974

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National

Amid defensiveness and confusion at the White House, a spokesman said President Ford was studying the possibility of pardoning those persons convicted or accused of crimes in the Watergate and related scandals. While confirming that "the entire matter" was "under study," other White House officials declined to say how serious Mr. Ford really was about pardoning any or all of the 48 individuals involved.

Strong partisan opposition developed in Congress to the idea of a blanket Presidential pardon for former Nixon aides charged with Watergate offenses. The House Republican leader, John J. Rhodes of Arizona, reaffirmed his support of President Ford's pardon of his predecessor but said the cases of Nixon assistants were not the same as that of a "fallen President."

Phillip W. Buchen, White House counsel, said that granting a pardon to former President Nixon implied guilt since there was "no other reason for granting a pardon." He spoke to newsmen as the White House released a memorandum from the special Watergate prosecutor listing 10 areas of possible criminal activity by Mr. Nixon.

Editorials and Comment

William Shannon on what "the end" presages.

Judith Wax retells the Pardoner's Tale.

~~Leonard Silk weighs economic effects of pardon.~~

News Analysis

Leonard Silk weighs economic effects of pardon.