

# A government by dictatorship?

To the Editor:

The continual government by TV experts, snapping at the heels of the President will result in government by a dictator. No successor to the President will be able to rule if Nixon is forced out.

**CHARLES H. ROSS**  
Portola Valley

Now it seems that it is not a question of whether Mr. Nixon will vacate the Presidency but whether his successor will be any better. Gerald Ford will undoubtedly be confirmed. Does anyone remember when and where he disagreed with Mr. Nixon on any point before his nomination?

His conformity, of course, is the reason he was nominated. Being a carbon copy of Mr. Nixon one wonders how he could have completely escaped the Watergate and election dirty tricks.

If the election were held today the Republicans could not win the Presidency with God as their candidate and they know that.

**MELDON B. BELKNAP**  
Walnut Creek

Howard K. Smith on Channel 7 (Nov. 2) in one of his sanctimonious "editorials" advocated that President Nixon resign and use his own time as a private citizen to prove his innocence. Does Smith believe in the American principle that a person is assumed innocent until proven guilty — even if the person is a minority of one?

Would Howard K. Smith also advocate that he himself resign and prove to the American people on his own time that he is not biased, that he does not incite in a subliminal manner and that he is innocent in denying justice in the spirit of American principles?

**ADRIENNE POWERS**  
Daly City

This nonsense about "just discovering" that two of the most vital White House tapes "never existed" is absolutely the last wisp of straw at the bottom of that pile of manure generically referred to as Watergate. It is absolutely incredible that after all the uproar that has been going on for the past one and one-half years, the non-existence of these tapes is just now discovered.

I know not what other Republicans may think but for myself, I have had enough. This administration is headed by either the most incompetent boobs or the most incompetent liars of all recorded history. In either alternative their disqualification to hold high office is established beyond all reasonable doubt.

**LEW WARDEN**  
San Leandro

Do you remember when Herbert Hoover was elected President? And Charlie Michelson was installed by the opposition in Washington in a full-time job, the sole purpose of which was to smear Mr. Hoover by fair means or "fowl" — to go into every chicken coop and backyard drainage ditch and dredge up anything that could be used in the mob psychology to discredit his administration? We are in a similar situation today but I hope we can see through the machinations that are so transparent.

**LUCILE EVANS**  
Nevada City

When President Nixon resigns, as resign he must, we will have before us an historic opportunity.

We are surviving a great national test. But we can show a new American greatness by the way we treat the rejected Mr. Nixon. Would any of us, no matter how miserable, trade places with Richard Nixon? It's becoming hard not to take pity on this tortured man, writhing in his self-created hell, his nightmare coming true.

Let us hope the President will spare himself the agony of continuing the struggle. He must go because he is endangering us all. Let us hope Congress will not demand perfection of Gerald Ford. He will be a very careful President...

**LEE UPSON**  
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