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Ex-Treasury Aide

Impeachment of Nixon Predicted

New York

The Wall Street Journal said yesterday that Edward L. Morgan, who resigned last week from a top treasury post, does not think that President Nixon will escape impeachment.

Morgan believes that his close friend and former presidential aide Egil (Bud) Krogh will "spill his guts" about the White House "plumbers" operation, the Journal said.

"Bud's confession and the tape erasures will probably do the President in," the Journal quoted Morgan as saying in a Washington interview after his surprise resignation last Friday.

"The tanks are coming. They're coming right down Pennsylvania avenue and into the Oval Office," Morgan was quoted as saying.

"If you think 1973 was bad, wait until Christmas, 1974, rolls around. You'll think last year was a holiday."

Morgan was a White House aide when he signed President Nixon's deed for his controversial contribu-

tion of his vice presidential papers to the national archives in 1969.

The gift resulted in a \$576,000 tax deduction for the President giving him a tax saving of at least \$200,000. The gift and Morgan's role in it are now under investigation by the Internal Revenue Service and a joint congressional committee on internal revenue taxation.

Morgan gave up his post as assistant secretary of the Treasury in part because of the controversy over whether the deed was properly drawn and whether it was signed on the date it was supposed to have been signed.

But in the interview with the Journal, Morgan said the major factor in his decision was the effect of Watergate's "poison" on the whole fabric of the government.

"If it were just the question about my signing of the silly deed, I wouldn't be leaving," Morgan said. "But it's everything that's happening to this government. I just want out."

Morgan, 35, was a lawyer in Arizona before he joined the administration in 1969. When he first arrived in Washington he lived with the Krogh family.

Krogh pleaded guilty last fall to a conspiracy charge growing out of the plumbers operation which he headed. He is scheduled to be sentenced today by a federal judge in Washington.

"Bud's a decent man, and when this mess ruined him I almost broke down," Morgan said in the Journal interview. He said the White House had given "practically no assistance" to Krogh or other aides involved in the Watergate affair.

"This is a war, and I hate war. Month after month it drags on, getting murkier and murkier. You see your friends dragged under. Frankly, it wears on you. I've been in the trenches, and I want out."

Associated Press