

Saxbe Says House Won't Impeach

Washington

Attorney General William Saxbe says he doesn't think the House of Representatives will impeach President Nixon "... on the basis of any evidence that's available to me today," and that to try would be "... the greatest form of foolishness."

"An impeachment action — especially a bitter, partisan impeachment, which it would have to be if no further crimes of a great nature are developed — would tear this country apart," he said in a copyrighted interview in U.S. News & World Report.

Saxbe said the "nature of the evil deeds that are alleged to the President are ... serious as to the moral turpitude of the people involved, and do reflect on the President."

But he called them "not of an impeachable nature," and said he expects the House to "hassle ... around" the impeachment issue.

"They'll keep it alive," he said. "They'd rather have a crippled Nixon than a healthy, sitting Jerry Ford."

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