



Senator Charles Percy gestured to reporters before his appearance on television.

Percy Accuses Nixon of Breaking 'Commitment'

Washington

Senator Charles Percy (Rep.-Ill.) said yesterday President Nixon broke a "binding commitment" to the Senate when he refused to give Watergate prosecutors additional tapes and documents.

He also said the Republican party might fare better in the November elections if the President resigned.

Percy, who is considering running for president in 1976, said he was told personally by General Alexander Haig, with the authority of the President, that the White House would cooperate with requests by special prosecutor Leon Jaworski for all tapes and documents related to Watergate. The President has since refused

to turn over additional evidence to the prosecutor's office.

"I am very distressed that a binding commitment made to the Senate and . . . personally made by White House personnel to me that anything Mr. Jaworski asked for as special prosecutor from the White House would be turned over to him" has not been followed, Percy said.

Percy was interviewed on CBS' "Face the Nation."

He added that if the Supreme Court ordered Mr. Nixon to turn over evidence to the House Judiciary Committee and the President refused, he would vote for impeachment.

"No man, be he president or otherwise, in this country

can place himself above the law," Percy said, adding, "I cannot imagine the President delaying the House of Representatives."

Asked if the GOP might be better off in the fall elections if Mr. Nixon resigned, Percy said: "It might possibly be. There is a growing feeling in the party that (Vice President) Jerry Ford would certainly not be as controversial. But that is beside the point. The President has said, and said to me, that he has no intention of resigning."

"Therefore, we have no alternative but to move as swiftly as possible, consistent with proper justice, toward the impeachment proceedings."

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