

Albert Opposes Nixon's Quitting

Carl Albert of Oklahoma, speaker of the House of Representatives, said here yesterday he does not think President Nixon should resign over the Watergate affair.

"I think this thing should be fought through," he told a press conference. "The facts must be brought out.

"I don't believe a resignation by the President or a whitewash by the Congress is going to satisfy the country."

Albert was asked if by "fought through" he meant impeachment of the President, he replied: "No. I think all the evidence should be brought out, and if there is enough there for impeachment, it should be voted, and if there is not enough, it should not be voted."

Albert, who was in San Francisco to address the 50th annual convention of the American Cotton Shippers' Association at the Fairmont Hotel, told the

press conference he was "not satisfied" with the transcripts of White House tapes provided by Mr. Nixon to the House Judiciary Committee.

"It seems to me the best evidence is the tapes themselves. There is a cardinal rule in American law that you use the best evidence in making a judgment."

The speaker said he thinks Mr. Nixon is attempting to make the impeachment probe look like a partisan issue, and said:

"If I were President — which I never will be, and never hope to be — I would want this case handled on its merits, and not on partisan politics."

Albert said he did not know if there were the necessary 218 votes in the House to impeach Mr. Nixon.

"It's difficult to assess the President's standing (with the House).



CARL ALBERT
"Facts must be brought out"

"But I know that the President's attacks on the (Judiciary) committee have hurt his standing in the House."

He would not speculate on whether the Congress will impeach or whether the Senate would convict Mr. Nixon.

Albert said that while he has a copy of the transcript of the White House tapes, he has not read it all, but "the portions I have read, and those portions I've heard on TV, seem to indicate that the tapes themselves would be the better evidence."