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World-Wide

IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS got started with initial presentation of evidence.

The House Judiciary Committee opened the hearings at which it will decide whether to recommend that the full House impeach President Nixon. After voting, 31-6, to close the session to television and the press, the Representatives heard Special Counsel John Doar discuss evidence about events leading up to the June 17, 1972, break-in at Democratic National Committee headquarters. The evidence includes some developed by a grand jury as well as what the 154-member staff has found. Hearings resume Tuesday.

James St. Clair, Nixon's Watergate lawyer, attended but didn't take part. Asked if he considered the committee analogous to a grand jury, he replied, "Clearly not."

The House Republican leader, John Rhodes of Arizona, said Nixon ought to consider resigning if erosion of public confidence makes him unable to govern effectively. But Rhodes stressed that he wasn't recommending resignation. Illinois Rep. John Anderson, the No. 3 House GOP leader, stated that it would be better for the country if Nixon stepped down. Vice President Ford said the loss of confidence in the government due to Watergate has reached "crisis proportions."

Republican Sen. Marlow Cook of Kentucky said last night that Nixon should consider quitting because of "moral turpitude" exhibited by the transcripts.

The Senate Watergate Committee unanimously voted to subpoena White House Chief of Staff Alexander Haig to answer questions about Howard Hughes' \$100,000 Nixon campaign gift. Last week, Haig refused to testify under Nixon's orders.

Charles G. Rebozo, who has said he received the \$100,000 in 1969-70 and returned it in 1973, testified before the Senate panel, which has subpoenaed some of his financial records. His lawyer said Rebozo originally accepted the Hughes money "to protect the President from Donald Nixon," his brother. The lawyer explained that Rebozo believes Nixon was hurt in earlier campaigns by criticism of a Hughes loan to Donald Nixon.

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