

What Ford Thinks of Impeaching

Muncie, Ind.

Vice President Gerald R. Ford said yesterday that impeachment and conviction of President Nixon would be "very, very bad" for the country both on domestic and foreign fronts.

Asserting again that he does not think the President will be impeached, Ford said, "I think the uncertainty that would result domestically affecting the economy, and I think the uncertainty that will affect our foreign affairs, will be significant."

Ford told a political fund-raising audience, "I can say from the bottom of my heart the President of the United States is innocent . . . He is right."

The sentence was interrupted as the crowd of about 500 persons gave him a standing ovation.

At an earlier news conference, Ford urged that all tapes relevant to the impeachment inquiry should be turned over to the House Judiciary Committee.

Ford said he believes the President should also turn over to the special prosecutor tapes and documents that the Supreme Court ruled Wednesday should be given up.

"There are some technical problems, but I hope they would be turned over as expeditiously as possible," Ford said.

The vice president said he believes the fact that the President agreed to fully comply with the Supreme Court order might be to the President's own benefit.

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