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Nixon is confident but not surprised

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SAN CLEMENTE — President Nixon was walking on a beach near the Western White House when he received word that the House Judiciary Committee had voted to recommend his removal from office on charges of obstruction of justice.

"The President was not surprised," Asst. Press Secretary Gerald Warren said after Nixon was contacted during his stroll with daughter Tricia and her husband, Edward Cox.

One hour and 18 minutes after the history committee vote, the White House issued a two-sentence statement:

"The President remains confident that the full House will recognize that there simply is not the evidence to support this or any other article of impeachment and will not vote to impeach. He is confident because he knows he has committed no impeachable offense."

While the lengthy House committee sessions droned on, Nixon maintained a business-as-usual stance at the Western White House.

His stroll today in swimming trunks is one he makes almost daily when he is on what he calls work holidays in San Clemente. When Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler tracked him down to-

day, he was strolling on the beach about a mile south of his villa here.