

Nixon Set to Continue Fight in Senate Trial

CALIF., July 27—Although the House of Representatives appears to be moving toward an impeachment vote, President Nixon at impeachment him, informed sources said here today.

One source close to the President said that if the full House does vote a bill of impeachment, Mr. Nixon would be more inclined than ever to continue his fight to try to obtain exoneration in a Senate trial.

When aides close to the President continued to assert confidence that the House will not vote impeachment, they were asked if the President would be willing to consider the House vote the determining factor as to whether he should stay in office.

These aides replied emphatically that Mr. Nixon would not agree to take the House vote as final, but that if the House votes impeachment charges, he will insist upon the full constitutional process, which means a Senate trial.

At a briefing here today on the lawn outside the President's office, White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler was asked if he was still confident that the full House would refuse to impeach.

"Absolutely," Ziegler replied.

Asked what he based his confidence on, he said he believed the House "will exercise its constitutional responsibility and will examine this matter with an open mind and will not vote impeachment when there is no evidence to support it."

Mr. Nixon appeared on the lawn earlier to present the presidential Medal of Freedom to Dr. Charles Leroy Bowman, founder of Orthopedic Hospital in Los Angeles.

The President looked well and appeared to be relaxed as he read the citation and presented the award to the 94-year-old physician.

Mr. Nixon remarked to re-

porters on departing that he could tell which ones had been in the sun and which had not, but when they attempted to question him he walked slowly back into his office.

The President is scheduled to return to Washington late Sunday. 28 402

Ziegler said the President is "feeling fine" and is not limping. However, he is wearing a support stocking that doctors recommended he use after a phlebitis attack last month in his left leg.

When asked about a report that he would go to Camp David to listen to tapes the Supreme Court ordered him to turn over to U.S. District Court Judge John J. Sirica, Ziegler said the President's schedule for next week was not fixed but that he would not rule out a visit to Camp David.

Ziegler said the President is spending about two hours a day on impeachment-related issues but is otherwise working on domestic and foreign problems that come to him. He conferred here Friday with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and talked with Kissinger again today by telephone, Ziegler said.

Ziegler insisted that the President has not watched any of the House Judiciary Committee debate on television. He receives reports on the deliberations from his staff, Ziegler reported.

He said he had discussed the committee proceedings with the President this morning and they decided "this is not the time to comment on the debate that is taking place."

The President conferred for 25 minutes with James T. Lynn, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Lynn said the President would veto a community development bill if it substantially exceeds his budget recommendations.