

# Excerpts From Editorials on Nixon

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NYT

Following are excerpts from newspaper editorials in the United States on Richard M. Nixon's decision to resign the Presidency:

## East

### NEW YORK

#### Mr. Nixon Bows Out

The Daily News

Mr. Nixon so often (by concealing the truth and by choosing so many overzealous and untrustworthy aides) was his own worst enemy. . . . But the Nixon resignation is more a person than a national tragedy. Our system—based as it is on laws and institutions which have endured wellnigh two centuries—can weather this crisis and continue strong and unimpaired.

#### A President Resigns . . .

The New York Post—5 pt  
The resignation of Richard M. Nixon and the accession of Gerald R. Ford are part of a drama Americans have never witnessed before and have no wish ever to see again, involving the grossest corruption of the Presidency, the forced surrender of that office by a man who degraded it and the installation of his successor in an hour of shame.

#### The Resignation

Newsday—5 pt

The moment, the wonder is that the system held together; it worked in extremis. The executive had broken down dangerously, but the courts, the Congress, the media and a weary but watchful public all brought their traditional restraints to bear in the democratic reckoning. As a result, there are prospects now for a period of stability and constructive re-appraisal in the life of the nation. America's long night has ended with the disgrace of President Nixon. But the new day begins hopefully with the accession of President Ford.

### WASHINGTON

#### The Resignation of the President

But there will be plenty of time to seek to balance the books on the Nixon Administration and to assess the terms and manner of his leaving office. For the moment our thoughts, like those of most others, turn to the challenge now facing Gerald Ford and the transfer not just of authority but also of public attention to him.

### BOSTON

#### A Moment for a New Beginning

The Globe

Indeed, it may come to pass that we shall enjoy what President Nixon always claims was his greatest aim, a generation of peace. We trust it will be so, and in that case we trust too that historians, regardless of the circumstances of his leaving office, will take due note of the part Mr. Nixon played in the achievements.

#### A Great Crisis is Resolved

The Herald-American

These last few days have been an agony for the country and for him. In the end Richard Nixon did the noble thing by resigning. He spared the nation the further agony of more months of impeachment drama and rudderless government.

### PORTLAND, ME.

#### The Tragedy of Richard Nixon

The Express

[It] is not a tragedy of the

American people. Americans all across our land may find in his departure a reaffirmation of our constitutional devotion to both law and justice.

### BALTIMORE

#### The Nixon Exit

The Sun

Less than two years of standing on a political pinnacle few men have ever attained the almost undisputed leadership of the most powerful country on earth, he has sunk into an abyss of disgrace as deep as the peak was high.

### South

### MIAMI

#### A Missed Chance for Amnesty

The News

President Nixon had an opportunity to bring the nation together last night and he failed . . . What everyone waited for was an admission, however slight, of his guilt in the Watergate scandals.

### NEW ORLEANS

#### The Issues Now

The Times-Picayune

The nation would do well to face the future now, rather than dwell on the past. Restoration of confidence in government, attention to severe domestic problems and strengthening the American image around the world are the issues now.

### LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

#### Nixon's Farewell Message

The Arkansas Gazette

Now Richard Nixon's name will live in obloquy, at least pending some distant work of revisionists which challenges the imagination . . . In his farewell he was still telling less than the truth to his countrymen.

### Midwest

### CLEVELAND

#### The People Had Enough

The Plain Dealer

The plain truth is that the nation could go no further with Nixon as its leader. The people had had enough . . . Nixon's resignation should not result in national agony, shameful though events were which led up to it.

### INDIANAPOLIS

#### Nixon's Last Crisis

The Star

The President's decision is the best one he could have made for the country. Impeachment has been a traumatic experience comparable to a war or a depression in its effect on the public. But this country is sound. It will survive. So will the Presidency.

### CHICAGO

#### Sorrow Rather Than Anger

The Tribune

Our feelings toward Mr. Nixon must be of sorrow rather than anger, and of mercy rather than revenge. His weaknesses are more of blind ambition and poor judgment rather than deliberate contempt for law.

### CINCINNATI

#### Time for All Americans

The Enquirer

This is the time for all Americans to join together behind President Ford. We ask this just not for the sake of the man but for the goal of political stability at home and peace in the world.

### ST. LOUIS

#### Nixon's Tragedy

The Globe-Democrat

It was tragic that Nixon was able to get Americans out of

Vietnam, but was not able to get himself out of the Watergate web.

### PERORIA, ILL.

The Journal State

I fear the resignation will make any future President less believable . . . I don't want a fourth-rate Presidency; I don't want an impotent International image. I fear such.

### DETROIT

#### Stain of Scandal

The Free Press

Mr. Nixon left office as the only President to be forced out during his term . . . He accomplished much in the area of foreign policy . . . but those achievements, real as they are, pale beside the awful stain of scandal that finally caught up with him.

### MINNEAPOLIS

#### Final Decision

The Tribune

President Nixon's final Presidential decision — to resign — was in the national interest. And his final Presidential address — conciliatory and moving — was a fitting farewell for the first American President to be forced from office in disgrace.

### Southwest

### DALLAS

#### Nixon's failings

The Morning News

The Nixon Administration has been subject to many vicious, unfair and reprehensible attacks by its political and ideological opponents. But at the end, it has been brought down by the failings of Richard M. Nixon himself.

### DENVER

#### Pervading Distrust

The Post

Swiftly, perhaps inevitably, and as a relief to the American people, the Presidency of Richard M. Nixon has come to an end. To his successor, President Ford, falls the formidable task of reuniting a people sadly worn by events of the past two years.

### TUCSON, ARIZ.

#### Nixon's Last Crisis

The Republic

He acted with patriotism, foregoing his own personal desires. For the general good, his decision was the best one he could have made for the country, although it does not resolve many of the questions raised by the Watergate mess.

### West

### GREAT FALLS, MONT.

#### Nixon's Resignation

The Tribune

The resignation of President Nixon calls for regret for the man and renewed faith in the strength of the American system of constitutional government.

### SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

#### Anguishing Trauma

The Bee

Like any other citizen, he must be held accountable for any and all crimes . . . this man has subjected the nation to an anguishing trauma.

### LOS ANGELES

#### His Resignation

The Times

Nixon clings to the thought that somehow he could have won 'personal vindication' while only in passing conceding some wrongdoings, apparently unaware of the serious things he did.