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'A Wise Decision'

Julie Eisenhower called it a "courageous and wise decision." Martha Mitchell called it a deal and Jack Ford said critics of his father's decision to pardon former President Nixon have the "privilege" to try to impeach President Ford.

"They're welcome to get as many signatures as they can muster," Ford, 22, said in San Diego where he is helping the re-election bid of close family friend Rep. Bob Wilson (R-Calif.). "It's their privilege."

Julie Eisenhower said in Indianapolis that "I am very proud of my father and I think that President Ford made a courageous and wise decision."

"I think both of these men have many, many years of service to give their country," she continued. "In the years ahead, they will both contribute much. And I include not only President Ford . . . but my own father I expect to be very, very active."

Mrs. Eisenhower said she

did not know if her father might run for office again but that "he might. David (Mrs. Eisenhower's husband) jokingly has been saying he thinks (Nixon) will be running for the U.S. Senate in 1980. I don't know. But I do know he's a great man."

Martha Mitchell told a columnist for The London Daily Express that she believes the pardon was arranged by Richard Nixon before he nominated Gerald Ford to be Vice President.

Asked her opinion of the new President, Mrs. Mitchell replied: "Ford? Do you think Nixon's pardon wasn't rigged before Nixon picked him for Vice President? Do you think he'd have gotten near the White House if he hadn't had it written in his desk. . . ?"

Mrs. Mitchell, estranged wife of former Attorney General John Mitchell, who is now under indictment in the Watergate coverup case, spoke by transatlantic telephone to the London columnist.