Ford Favors Role for Congress

By MARJORIE HUNTER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5— Representative Gerald R. Ford said today that he thought a President should be truthful, thoughtful, humble and able to exert moral and ethical leadership.

Mr. Ford's prescription for the Presidency came during a second and perhaps final found of questioning by the Senate Rules Committee on the House minority leader's confirmation for Vice President:

Today, as last week, the questioning focused on what kind of a President Mr. Ford would be if President Nixon does not serve out his term in office.

The Michigan Republican continued to defend Mr. Nixon against those critics who think he should resign or be impeached. But Mr. Ford also continued to differ with the President on a number of issues.

## Supports Richardson

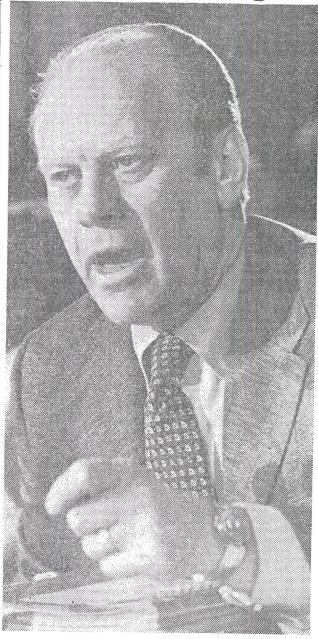
Mr. Ford said that he "fully understood" the decision of Elliot L. Richardson to resign as Attorney General two weeks ago, rather than dismiss Archibald Cox as special prosecutor in the Watergate case, as requested by Mr. Nixon.

quested by Mr. Nixon.

"He felt that a commitment had been made," the Vice-Presidential nominee said of Mr. Richardson. "I assume if I were in the same position, I would do the same."

Mr. Ford said that if he became President, he would favor a greater role for Congress in formulating foreign policy. "There has to be a two-way street" between Congress and the executive branch, he said.

Mr. Ford also said that, as



Mr. Ford answering the majority whip's question

President, he would seek the advice of members of Congress and department heads on thorny questions, rather than rely completely on White House advisers.

The mounting demands for the resignation of President Nixoqwere reflected in questioning by Republicans on the committee, as well as Demo-

"Can Richard Nixon save his Presidency?" Senator Mark Hatfield, Republican of Oregon, asked.

"I think so," Mr. Ford re-"It's going to take a plied. lot of help from a lot of people. And I intend to devote myself tions with Chinese Communist to that."

## **Proof Wanted**

convinced that the President Ford also told of his talks was "completely 9nnocent" of with leaders of other nations, any wrongdoing or cover-up in as a member of the Interparthe Watergate affair, but added liamentary Union. that the "public wants the pres-

a confession without it being he defended continued sup-equated with weakness?" Sena-tor Hatfield persisted. Mr. Ford Treaty Organization. replied, "Yes.

Obviously hoping to allay ame President, he would recriticism that Mr. Ford has tain Henry A. Kissinger as only limited knowledge of world affairs Senator Hugh him as "a superb" official. Scott of Pennsylvania, the Scott of Pennsylvania, the Senate minority leader, led Mr. Ford through a recitation of his background in foreign of his background in foreign affairs.

## Policy Toward Cuba

Mr. Ford told of conversa-tion" for the disadvantaged. Proof Wanted last year, shortly after Mr. to education, he now thought it Nixon's historic trip there. Mr. was sound.

that the "public wants the president to prove that, through documents and so forth."

"Whatever doubts there are must be cleared up," he said.

Asked by Senator Hatfield hecouse contributors to disclosure of the would favor imiliar to that now required of members of Congress.

United States policy toward there are cuba, Mr. Ford said there should be "a constant review," to disclosure of the work of the work of the contributors to disclosure of the work of th Asked by Senator Hatfield because circumstances do whether he felt it a sign of change." He also said he fa-

weakness to admit one's mistakes, Mr. Ford replied, "No." participation in the Southeast "Can a President make such Asia Treaty Organization, and

He indicated that, if he be-

children to achive racial balance, but that he strongly favored "compensatoy educa-

He also said that, while was leaders on a visit to China an early critic of Federal aid

dents and the Federal judiciary,

do the Watergate scandal.

## Criticizes Lobbyist

Mr. Ford's earlier association wtih a one-time Washington lobbyist, Robert Winter-Berger, continued to dog him through-out much of today's questioning. He denied contentions made by the lobbyist in a book, "The Washington Pay-Off," that he had received money from Mr. Winter-Berger.

"I've read his book, and I don't believe any of the things he said about me or any other person," Mr. Ford said. "Those re just a demagogic bunch of words that didn't deserve publication."

He said he did not file a libel suit against Mr. Winterberger because, under recent rulings of the Supreme Court, "it's virtually impossible for a person in public life to collect anything from those who write that kind of trash."

Mr. Ford also defended himself against criticism that he had profited from his service on the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy by writing a book and contributing to a magazine article.

He admitted receiving \$10,000 for the book, "Portraits of an Assassin," and \$5,000 for the magazine article, but said the material was not classified and that he merely tried to make readable the information that later appeared in the commission's report.

Mr. Ford also denied allegations that he had exerted influence in obtaining a Government contract for a furniture manufacturer in Grand Rapids, Mich.