

Mills Believes House Is Ready to Impeach Nixon

Washington

Representative Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark.) said yesterday he believes a majority of the House is now ready to vote to impeach President Nixon.

"There is no doubt in my mind that there are enough votes for the articles of impeachment in the House," Mills said in an interview televised by the Public Broadcasting Service. He said he based this on talks with House colleagues from all parts of the country.

Mills said he detected a change in the House mood in recent weeks to a pro-impeachment position. He attributed this largely to "what the membership feels is lack of cooperation on the part of the White House" with the House Judiciary Committee's impeachment inquiry. "It's this, I think, more than anything else, that may have intensified the feeling within the House," he said.

Mills also said he felt the President's strategy of at-

tacking the committee for requesting more information than he felt it needed has backfired.

Mills, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and vice chairman of a House-Senate committee investigating Mr. Nixon's income tax deductions, was the first leading House member flatly to predict that the President would be impeached.

Mills said he himself is not yet ready to vote for impeachment. "I've got to see the evidence," he said, evidence of action or inaction by the President "that is the equivalent of a crime."

Mills said his "great worry" is that a majority of the House will vote to impeach the President, but that the Senate will fail to obtain the two-thirds vote needed to remove him from office, and that this would leave Mr. Nixon powerless to govern and the country bitterly divided.

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