

Pro-Nixon Fast, Vigil Launched

By Marjorie Hyer

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Rabbi Baruch Korff and followers of the Korean evangelist, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, joined forces in defense of President Nixon, yesterday as the time nears for the vote on impeachment.

The rabbi, founder of the National Citizens Committee for Fairness to the Presidency, proclaimed his "solidarity" with several hundred young followers of Mr. Moon who took over the east steps of the Capitol to launch a 72-hour fast and prayer vigil in support of the President.

Rabbi Korff said his doctor would allow him to fast for only one day with the young people, who have organized themselves as the National Prayer and Fast Committee for their current effort.

Last week's nationwide Citizens' Congress of Rabbi Korff's organization saw the involvement of "close to 300" of the youthful Moon followers, according to Janet Cook, who answered the telephone in Rabbi Korff's office but identified herself as "with the National Prayer and Fast Committee."

As the fast and prayer vigil of the young people got under way yesterday, some 20 members of Congress slipped out at intervals during the afternoon to address informal remarks to the gathering.

"God bless you for what you're doing. Your right motives should be continued," said Rep. Don Young (R.-Alaska).

He told a reporter his remarks were addressed to the emphasis of the young people on prayer and that no political implications should be "read into it."

Each member of the vigil wore a professionally prepared sandwich board with the name and photograph of a member of Congress, the Cabinet or the Nixon family under the legend: "I am praying for _____"

In addition, colorful placards exhorted passers-by to "Pray for Congress" and "Pray for America's Future."

The placards did not specifically mention the impeachment issue but Neil Salonen, president of the National Prayer and Fast Committee, Inc., made it clear where the group stands on the question.

"We do not think the President should be impeached," he told a visitor.