

Meany Foresees Disaster for G.O.P. If Nixon Stays On

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By DAMON STETSON

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CHICAGO, Aug. 6 — George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, today predicted an election disaster for Republicans in the fall if President Nixon remained in office.

As long as Mr. Nixon stays in office as President and discloses his involvement in the Watergate cover-up continues, the Republicans will be unable to divorce themselves from Mr. Nixon, Mr. Meany said.

The labor leader, speaking at a news conference here, said that the latest tape disclosures and Mr. Nixon's admission that he had ordered a halt to the investigation of the Watergate break-in reinforced his own view that the President should resign now.

If he does not do so, the nation will be faced for the next four months with a non-functioning executive branch and a legislative branch preoccupied with the impeachment process, Mr. Meany said.

Asked for his forecast of the election in the fall if Mr. Nixon continues in office, Mr. Meany predicted a potential loss of 60 house seats.

Mr. Meany added, however, that there would be a tremendous change in the political situation if President Nixon were to resign now and Vice President Ford were to succeed him. In that event, he said, the whole onus of the Watergate affair would be removed from the Republicans.

The labor organization, whose Executive Council completed its summer meeting here today, is planning a major effort in the fall to elect friendly candidates and what Mr. Meany refers to as a "veto-proof Congress."