Brezhnev Fondly Recalls Nixon

LONDON, Sept. 29 (AP)—Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev still has lingering admiration for former President Richard M. Nixon and doesn't understand why Nixon had to resign, veteran U.S. diplomat Averell Harriman reported today after a Moscow visit.

They got along so well," Harriman said of Nixon and Brezhnev.

"He doesn't understand what President Nixon did in the United States, or Watergate," he continued. "He only thinks of the progress they made together."

Harriman, 84, is a former ambassador to Moscow and now a foreign affairs adviser to Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter.

Harriman said he was told by Brezhnev last weekend that the Soviets are remaining neutral in the U.S. presidential contest. He added that the Soviets had been disturbed by some of the early campaign rhetoric.

"They were particularly upset by the part [former California Gov. Ronald] Reagan played—he would have had us back in a Cold War," said Harriman.