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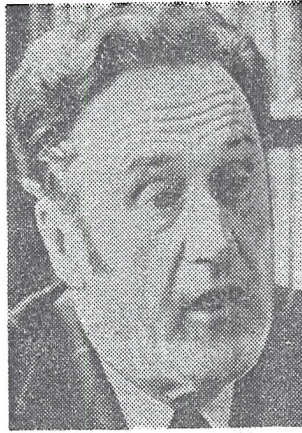
## Won't drop Nixon, says his pastor

Associated Press

PORTLAND (Ore.) — President Nixon's pastor says he is under pressure to drop Nixon's church membership because of the President's handling of the Watergate scandal and the war in Southeast Asia.

Pastor T. Eugene Coffin of the East Whittier Friends Church in Nixon's home town of Whittier, Calif., said he had no intention of dropping Nixon's membership.

Pastor Coffin in Portland on Friday on private business, said about a dozen of the approximately 1000 Friends churches in the United States have written him urging that he drop Nixon's membership in the Quaker church. He said the letters



Pastor T. Eugene Coffin  
—AP Photo

cited Nixon's policies in Vietnam and Cambodia and his handling of Watergate.

"It is probably true that the President's actions were not consistent with Friends peace testimony . . . but Friends also hold that each person has a right to his personal convictions and should act according to his own conscience, or spiritual light," pastor Coffin said.