

Columnist ask Nixon to resign

The only decent, honorable thing for President Nixon to do in the wake of Watergate is to resign and let somebody else form a government that has the faith of the American people.

This blunt approach to applying brakes to the frenetic Washington merry-go-round of late was rendered yesterday by columnist Jack Anderson.

Anderson told 300 members of Concord's Century Club that "the Watergate burglary was neither a Democratic or Republican crime but rather a Nixon crime."

In a free swinging 90 minute speech defending the public's right to know and the constitutionally protected freedom of the press, Anderson told civic and business leaders of Contra Costa County that:

"In being at ringside in Washington for more than 25 years I can tell you that is going on right now is not politics as usual.

"President Nixon was brought to the White House the unprecedented philosophy that he can do anything he wants so long as it is done in the name of national security.

"Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson did not put themselves above the law of the land as President Nixon has done in authorizing illegal burglaries and wiretaps."

Because of his "let the chips fall where they may" approach to covering the Washington scene, someone wondered if Anderson had a security problem.

"I'm pretty well protected by my nine kids," he said, explaining that one of his teenage sons recently noticed a battered Volkswagen slowly cruising his neighborhood.

"My boy saw the driver crouch down and speak into a walkie-talkie — so we got the license number and traced it to the Secret Service."