

# Nixon Says He Won't Resign

Washington

President Nixon, besieged in recent weeks by demands for his resignation or impeachment, insisted last night that he had not violated the trust of the American people and that he would not quit.

Near the end of his nationally televised message on the energy crisis, he paused, looked hard into the cameras and said, "I would like to close on a personal note."

After reciting a list of the accomplishments he said the nation had made since his landslide re-election a year ago, Mr. Nixon declared somberly:

"I have no intention whatever of walking away from the job I was elected to do, as long as I am physically able."

"I am going to continue to work 16 to 18 hours a day," he said, to deal with such problems as inflation and to attempt to bring peace to the world.

## SECRET

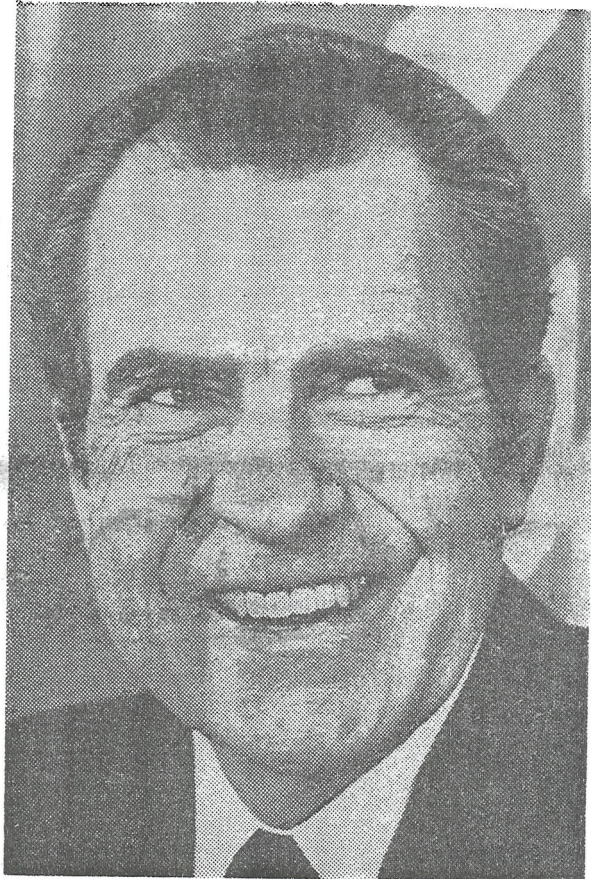
The President's intention to face down his critics before the cameras last night was a carefully kept secret. Most of his staff did not know that he would depart from the energy conservation theme that had been the announced reason for his appearance.

Noting that since he had been re-elected a year ago the war in Vietnam had been ended, the prisoners of war released, the draft ended and the rate of unemployment reduced, he added:

"But I would be less than candid if I were not to admit that this has not been an easy year in some respects."

"As a result of the deplorable Watergate matter," he went on sadly, "a great number of Americans have

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UPI Telephoto

MR. NIXON AFTER HIS TELEVISED SPEECH  
'This has not been an easy year in some respects'

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had doubts raised as to the integrity of the President of the United States."

### INTEGRITY

After declaring that he would not quit even though "some publications have even called for my resignation," Mr. Nixon declared that he intends to stay on the job "to see that any doubts as to the integrity of the man who occupies this office — to remove these doubts wherever they exist."

"I am confident that in those months ahead," he concluded, "the American people will come to realize that I have not violated the trust they placed in me when they elected me president of the United States. And I pledge tonight to do everything I can to be worthy of that trust."

The White House, meanwhile, continued a new counteroffensive in its repeated attempts to lay the Watergate scandal to rest.

At a White House news briefing yesterday, Ronald Ziegler, the President's press secretary, described Mr. Nixon as "very determined" and "very much in charge" of the nation's affairs.

### REPORTS

In describing the President as "very much in charge," the press secretary was apparently trying to rebut continuing reports that

Mr. Nixon has been under a mental strain that may have affected his emotional stability.

Ziegler said the President has been doing his job in "a very extensive and effective

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way." The rumors, he said, are "simply unfounded."

Ziegler was asked to comment on a reply made by Elliot L. Richardson, who resigned as attorney general in a dispute over the authority of the special Watergate prosecutor, to a question before the Senate Judiciary committee. Richardson said:

"There was a period from around early July in which I thought the President showed a considerable sense of strain."

Responding yesterday, Ziegler declared:

"Anyone who has seen him recently knows he is

very determined; he is very much in charge. He has a rein on the functions of government and has the Watergate matter and all elements to the Watergate affair firmly in mind and intends to deal with them."

Asked if the President had been under the care of a psychiatrist or psychologist in recent months, Ziegler said, "Absolutely not."

Los Angeles Times