

# Nixon Insists He'll Stay On the Job as President

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 — President Nixon declared tonight that he would not resign.

Besieged in recent weeks by demands for his resignation or impeachment, the President paused dramatically tonight near the end of his nationally televised message on the energy crisis 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 one year ago today, Mr. Nixon said 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 nagging problems as inflation and to attempt to bring

## Plan Was a Secret

The President's intention to face down his critics before the cameras tonight 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.

Mr. Nixon, who has looked tired and haggard in recent days as his Watergate problems have mounted, apparently spoke the last words of his message tonight from memory. And while he earlier had flubbed an unusual number of lines, for him, from his prepared text, he delivered his answer on Watergate firmly and clearly.

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, "a great number of Americans have had doubts raised as to the integrity of the President of the United States."

## Vows to Remove Doubts

After declaring that he would not quit even though "some publications have even called for my resignation," Mr. Nixon declared that he intended to stay on the job "to see that any doubts as to the integ-

rity 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."

Mr. Nixon's departure from his announced subject to defend House was openly mounting a new counteroffensive in its re-Watergate scandal to rest.

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

The President, meanwhile, spent the day with Congressional leaders, Governors, Mayors, business leaders and consumer affairs representatives before going on television tonight to put forth his energy conservation program.

Mr. Ziegler said the President had been doing his job in "a very extensive and effective way." The rumors about mental strain, he said, were "simply unfounded."

The statements were unusual in that they came in response to the type of question that Mr. Ziegler in the past would usually have said he could not dignify with an answer.

At the daily press briefing, Mr. Ziegler was asked to comment about a reply made by former Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson to a question yesterday before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Asked by Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, about an article in The New York Times Oct. 23 that quoted Mr. Richardson, through associates, as having said that the President had not been in the best mental condition recently, Mr. Richardson replied:

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

Responding today, Mr. 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 of the Watergate affair firmly in mind and intends to deal with them."