

Hart Urges Nixon Quit; Others Differ

By David S. Broder

Washington Post Staff Writer

A fourth liberal senator called for President Nixon's resignation yesterday, but the Democratic national chairman and a bipartisan trio of conservative down-graded talk of removing him from office.

The resignation call came from Sen. Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.), who said that "if the President should resign with grace, it might be the best way to bring us out of the situation."

Previously Sens. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) and Edward Brooke (R-Mass.) had urged resignation on the President.

On the other side, Democratic national chairman Robert S. Strauss, former Texas governor and Treasury Secretary John B. Connally, Sen. Herman E. Talmadge (D-Ga.) and Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.) argued that impeachment was not supported by public opinion or the available evidence.

Strauss declined to take a personal position on the impeachment question, saying he did not want "to put a partisan cloud on those who have to decide the question."

But when asked if he thought the voters want Mr. Nixon removed, he replied, "No, I don't really think they do. They just wish it (the Watergate problem)

would go away. They're saddened and disgusted with it, but attrition is setting in. People are getting tired of reading and hearing about it."

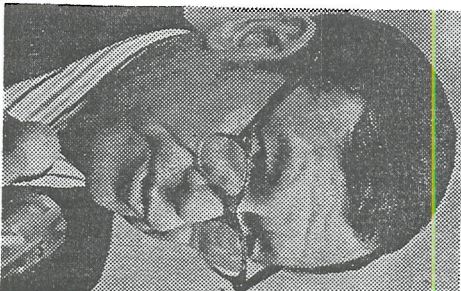
Strauss defended the refusal of Democratic leaders in Congress to press for impeachment, saying that "if we impeached a President on narrow partisan lines, it would be bad for the country."

Strauss said he hoped Democratic legislators who are scheduled to meet with Mr. Nixon this week will tell him that "the people of this nation want to support and help their President, but we believe the nation is . . . going backward because of the refusal of the White House to come clean. . . . If the President is guilty, we feel he should face impeachment and if not, we want to get on to other things."

Talmadge, a member of the Senate Watergate committee, told a Chicago press conference he had "serious doubt . . . that there is sufficient evidence to warrant impeachment of the President at the present time."

He said the only evidence against the President came from former White House counsel John W. Dean III, adding that "Mr. Dean himself is a co-conspirator, and I don't think that would be sufficient evidence to remove the presumption of innocence."

In Los Angeles, Goldwater told newsmen: "There is



SEN. HERMAN TALMADGE
Join in questioning support for Nixon impeachment.

no way he (Mr. Nixon) can be impeached, and there is no sensible reason for him



ROBERT STRAUSS
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Urging the press and politicians to "cool it," Goldwater said, "I'm not defending the President for one minute," but he noted that resignation is "up to the man himself" and argued that "getting two-thirds of the Senate to vote for impeachment would be impossible."

In San Antonio, Connally also counseled patience while the "judicial processes work."

In a speech to the Southern Medical Association convention, he said: "We hear cries on all sides—resign, impeach. Well, is that really what we ought to do? Shouldn't we be patient enough and kind enough to let it have time to work its way, to work its way through the judicial processes of the country?"