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Ford Backs Sirica

On Secret Report

Vice President Gerald R. Ford said last night that he personally approves of Judge John J. Sirica's decision yesterday to turn over the Watergate grand jury's secret report on President Nixon to the House Judiciary Committee.

"I understand the White House didn't object and I didn't object," he told reporters at a news conference following an appearance at a fund-raising event for Rep. Lawrence J. Hogan (R-Md.).

Ford said he had been told that the secret report "does not implicate the President directly." Asked where he learned this, Ford conceded that "it's rumor from the news media and you know, the news media is always correct."