

JAVITS OPPOSES BUCKLEY'S STAND

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Telegrams Also Dispute Plea
for Nixon to Resign —

Democrats Are Gleeful
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WASHINGTON, March 20—Senator James L. Buckley's proposal that President Nixon resign gained no visible converts today among Republican conservatives, brought the New Yorker a stack of angry telegrams and evoked glee in some Democratic quarters.

Senator Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, disagreed with Mr. Buckley, saying at a news conference that he did not believe the President should resign "at this time."

"It may be Senator Buckley's bag, but it's not my bag," Mr. Javits said, and then repeated "at this time."

What would be the proper time? "I don't know," Mr. Javits replied. "I want to press forward with early action by the House of Representatives on impeachment."

Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma, asked to respond to Mr. Buckley's proposal, replied with a smile, "I'd like to leave it up to the Republicans to argue that thing out."

An Associated Press poll found, however, that although Senator Buckley, a Republican-Conservative, and Senator

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Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts stood alone among Senate Republicans favoring Mr. Nixon's resignation, 15 Democratic Senators—some of whom requested anonymity—now believed that the President should quit.

A stack of 400 telegrams sent to Mr. Buckley—many of them personal and vituperative—ran 3 to 1 against resignation. "Et tu, Brute?" asked a Chattanooga woman. "You're unreal." A Mobile, Ala., man said: "Suggest you marry Wilbur Mills and adopt Dan Rafter."

But a Bronx woman said in her message, "At last I have a Senator." And a Kentucky woman said, "Your actions confirm that conservatives do have a conscience."

Senator Robert P. Griffin, Republican of Michigan and minority whip, said that Mr. Buckley's proposal "is bound to have a profound impact" because it was a "personal decision by a very able and respected colleague."

Mr. Buckley, whose proposal Tuesday dominated capital cloakroom conversations today, said that he thought President Nixon's support by conservatives was thinner than many supposed.

Case for Impeachment

Mr. Buckley, asked on the N.B.C. "Today" program whether he believed that the President's conservative support may be shallow, replied "I think in a very real sense, yes."

"I feel that conservatives, along with others in the country, have been deeply concerned over much of what we have learned about the activities of some of the people in and around the Presidency, activities that are inherently shocking, inherently indefensible," Mr. Buckley said.

Senator Clifford P. Case of New Jersey, a liberal Republican, reiterated his view that the Watergate issue should be resolved by the impeachment process. He said today, however, that if the issue was not resolved by the first of the year, the President's power to

govern would be so severely impaired that "he will have no choice but to resign."

Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr. of Connecticut, a moderate Republican and an early critic of the Watergate break-in, also favored the impeachment route. But in a speech last weekend he denounced President Nixon's defense of his conduct as "trashy."

The two Democratic Senators from the metropolitan area have already urged the President to resign. "I think the country would be better off if the President resigned," Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff of Connecticut said today. Senator Harrison A. Williams Jr. of New Jersey has called such a resignation "in the best interests of the country."

Representative Howard W. Robison, Republican of upstate New York and dean of the state's Republican Congressional delegation, said today that he had considered urging the President to resign but had decided against it.

Mr. Robison said that he disagreed with Senator Buckley's assessment that the Watergate situation was "beyond repair."

"However," he said, "I believe that to 'repair' the situation—if it is repairable—would require an almost complete change of attitude on Mr. Nixon's part, including an end to evasion, subterfuge and delaying tactics, a throwing off of the cloak of Presidential immunity, and a hitherto unseen mood of humility and contrition."

Senator Dewey F. Bartlett, of Oklahoma, a conservative Republican, disagreed with Senator Buckley because "forcing a President to resign because of public clamor could cause irreparable damage to the constitutional office of the Presidency."

Representative John H. Rousset of California, a conservative Republican, said today that despite his admiration for Senator Buckley, with whom he shared "a great many" philosophical convictions, he did not believe that the President should resign.