

LEADING SENATORS REFUSE TO PRESS NIXON ON QUITTING

Conservatives of 2 Parties
Appear Ready to Await
House Developments.

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RIGHT TO TRIAL IS CITED

Many Upset by Tone of the
Transcripts, but All Deny
Hearing of Ouster Plan

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By R. W. APPLE Jr.

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WASHINGTON, May 13 — Prominent Senate conservatives of both parties said today that they had no intention of pressing either publicly or privately for President Nixon's resignation.

Despite a stream of demands from newspapers and others last week that Mr. Nixon quit because of the revelations in the White House Watergate transcripts, the conservatives appeared to have concluded that they should stand fast and await developments in the House Judiciary Committee and the full House.

Many of the Republicans and Democrats interviewed said they were upset by the tone of the transcripts, but all insisted that they had heard no discussion of sending a delegation to the White House to seek Mr. Nixon's resignation.

Would Have the Votes

Barring new defections by conservatives, many observers here believe, Mr. Nixon is highly unlikely even to consider resignation, because he has enough support to provide him with the 34 votes he would need to avoid conviction in the Senate if he were impeached by the House of Representatives.

At the White House today, aides seemed more confident than they had been last week, when they were preoccupied with the negative reaction to the release of the transcripts and with denying rumors that the President was considering resignation. Mr. Nixon was quoted as having said today, "Don't worry. There isn't any

chance of that whatever."
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Brock Gives Reasons

Senator William E. Brock 3d, Republican of Tennessee, summarized his reasons for refraining from any call for resignation as follows:

"The President has a right to decide what he wants to do, and to have a trial if he wants it, which he seems to. And besides, there is not much chance that we could persuade him to resign until the House completes action, if at all. He wouldn't listen to us."

Mr. Brock, who is chairman of the Republican senatorial campaign committee, appeared downcast by the political and other implications of the transcripts. He said that their impact had been "enormous," creating a sense of "deep concern and depression" among the conservatives.

So far, the only conservative Senator to call for the President's resignation has been James L. Buckley, conservative.

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Republican of New York. He made his statement last month, well before the transcripts were released.

On the Senate floor this afternoon, a speech by Senator Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, the Democratic whip, set off a round of comments by other Senators — most of them conservatives, and all of them opposed to resignation.

Argument by Byrd

Mr. Byrd said that resignation would serve only to convince the President's supporters that he had been driven from office by his enemies.

"The question of guilt or innocence would never be fully resolved," Senator Byrd argued. "The country would remain polarized — more so than it is today. And confidence in government would remain un-restored."

Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, the leader of the Democratic majority, agreed, telling his colleagues that "this is a time to keep cool."

Senator Carl T. Curtis, Republican of Nebraska, equated resignation with "mob rule." Senator William L. Scott, Republican of Virginia; Senator James B. Allen, Democrat of Alabama, and Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina, followed in much the same vein.

None of the Senators defended Mr. Nixon's conduct, but Mr. Thurmond described him as "the only President we have" and asked "why should we want to weaken his hand" in negotiations with other nations.

Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, the man to whom many party leaders around the country have been looking for a signal, added nothing to his earlier statements.

Goldwater Silent

His press secretary, Tony Smith, said that Mr. Goldwater had no interest in leading — or even joining — a delegation of Senators to visit Mr. Nixon at this time.

"If the House votes to impeach," Mr. Smith said, "and if the President doesn't resign after that, then the Senator might be willing to go to the White House to suggest that he quit, but only if other people took the lead in it."

He suggested that Senator Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, the minority leader, and George Bush, the Republican National Chairman, would be appropriate leaders for any delegation from the party.

Oklahoma's two Senators — Henry L. Bellmon and Dewey

F. Bartlett, both Republicans — said they were totally opposed to any concerted conservative action to call for Mr. Nixon's resignation or to suggest it privately.

"It would have a demoralizing effect on the President," Mr. Bellmon said, "and it would create a disastrous precedent for future Presidents. Besides, there is no reason to say this man is unfit. I was disappointed with some of his reactions, but I haven't basically changed my mind about him."

Both Mr. Bellmon and Mr. Bartlett were with Mr. Nixon at Oklahoma State University Saturday night. The President has tended to concentrate his speaking engagements recently in states where one or both of the Senators support him.

One senior conservative, Senator Norris Cotton of New Hampshire, a 74-year-old Republican, took an unusual stance in a statement yesterday at his home in Lebanon, N. H. He called on the House to vote impeachment as soon as possible.

"The worst thing Richard Nixon could do for himself and his country — I won't say anything about his party — would be to resign," Mr. Cotton said. "Because every kind of charge, large and or small, has been made against him, the only way it can be settled is for impeachment to take place before the yes, and with a resounding in the ears, of every citizen in this country."