SFChronicle

Sen. Brooke Worried by Summit Plan

Akron, Ohio

Senator Edward W. Brooke, (Rep-Mass.) warned yesterday that President Nixon, weakened by Watergate, might be pressured by the Russians into compromising too much on a strategic arms limitation agreement.

Brooke, the first Republican senator to call for Mr. Nixon's resignation, urged the President to forego a summit meeting in Russia next month unless an arms accord is nailed down, made public and gains the widespread approval of congressional leaders.

Otherwise, Brooke said, "I seriously question the wisdom of a summit meeting in June."

Among the reasons cited by Brooke for his opposition to Mr. Nixon's trip — barring the existence of an acceptable accord before he leaves — is that the "question of impeachment could be coming to a head in the House of Representatives."

In a speech at the University of Akron, Brooke said if substantive articles have to be worked out at the summit, "the Kremlin might be tempted to seek undue advantage of a weakened President who desperately needs a dramatic gesture to counterbalance his political liabilities."

Brooke said this could mean "the President might compromise to a greater degree than he should or normally would were his position at home more secure."

Or, Brooke said, Mr. Nixon "might overreact to an attempted Soviet squeeze" and return to a hardline cold war posture.

United Press