

Evidence Favors Nixon, Ford Says

Albuquerque, N.M.

Vice President Gerald R. Ford said yesterday the preponderance of the House Judiciary Committee's Watergate coverup evidence, when added to previous evidence, favors President Nixon "and exonerates him of any impeachable offense."

"I think the evidence as a whole — the new evidence as well as the old evidence — clearly exonerates the President of any involvement in the break-in, or in any ITT or milk fund impeachable offense," Ford said at a brief news conference.

"And I think the prepon-

derance of the evidence — all of it — is in favor of the President and exonerates him of any impeachable offense," Ford said.

The House Judiciary Committee released all of its Watergate break-in and coverup evidence in eight volumes Thursday night. The evidence is laid out in chronological order and draws no conclusion on wrongdoing.

Ford made the comment en route to the Atomic Energy Commission's Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory for a secret demonstration of nuclear weaponry.

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