

## Knight calls for resignation

United Press International

MIAMI — John S. Knight, the editorial chairman of Knight Newspapers, Inc., called today for President Nixon to resign and for Gerald Ford to assume the presidency and appoint a bipartisan cabinet.

Knight, in a column in Knight's 16 daily newspapers, said Watergate "has destroyed public confidence in government at all levels" and the President "cannot recapture the respect and support of a majority of his countrymen."

"At this counting," Knight said, "some 16 members of the Nixon Administration have either pleaded guilty or been convicted of various

criminal acts. Still, Mr. Nixon would have us believe that the press alone is to blame for his misfortunes."

Knight supported Nixon in 1960 and 1968 but endorsed no one in 1972.

Knight said the business community has become disenchanted with Nixon's ability to manage the nation's business and economic affairs, the Administration's attack on inflation has been a dismal failure and the President's political weakness at home has injured his bargaining power in foreign relations.

Knight said Ford is "no genius, but he has basic honesty and a reverence for the institutions of government."