

What Ford Says

Chicago

Vice President Gerald R. Ford said yesterday that even if the House votes to impeach President Nixon he should not resign.

"A person who would resign under these circumstances could be accused of admitting his guilt," the vice president said at a news conference. "He thinks he's innocent. I think he's innocent and at least ten members of the House Committee on the Judiciary think he's innocent."

Ford again criticized Democratic committee members who, he said, would vote to impeach in an

attempt to undo the 1972 election.

There are "a substantial number of members of the committee on the Democratic side who obviously fought Mr. Nixon in the 1972 campaign, opposed his policies in Congress and who, I'm convinced, would be overjoyed if and when Mr. Nixon is impeached and convicted."

Asked to identify those members, Ford replied, "You can start out with the group that voted against me" in the vicepresidential confirmation hearings last fall.

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