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Impeachment Act Draws Meager Soviet Reaction

MOSCOW, July 28—Official Soviet reaction to the impeachment vote in the House Judiciary Committee yesterday was confined to a brief account of a White House statement saying that President Nixon is confident that the full House of Representatives will clear him, Washington Post correspondent Peter Osnos reported.

The report, carried by Tass, was the first mention in the Soviet media of the committee's debate. The Supreme Court's decision last week ordering Mr. Nixon to turn over 64 tapes to the Watergate special prosecutor was ignored altogether.

From the beginning, Soviet media have seldom mentioned Watergate, and their reports have consistently been cast in terms highly favorable to the President.

The pevailing view of Watergate in official circles here has been that it was a plot by the President's Democratic opponents to unseat him because of his policy of improving relations with the Soviet Union.

Most other governments declined to comment on the committee's vote. Some of them, such as Japan, argued that the impeachemnt process is an internal U.S. matter.