

3 Panel Republicans See New Plea to Nixon to Quit

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WASHINGTON, July 28 — Three senior Republican members of the House Judiciary Committee said today that they expected renewed appeals for President Nixon's resignation after the committee completes work on a bill of impeachment later this week.

The resolution last night, predicted in telephone interviews that such appeals would grow out of Republican fears of the consequences of the impeachment process on their party and on the nation as a whole.

However, none of the three — Representatives Robert McClory of Illinois, Henry P. Smith 3d of upstate New York and David W. Dennis of Indiana — said that they themselves were prepared to ask Mr. Nixon to quit.

'A Serious Mistake'

And Representative M. Caldwell Butler, a Virginia Republican who voted for impeachment last night, said on a television interview program that "in the absence of an admission of total guilt" he thought it would be "a serious mistake."

For months, Mr. Nixon has insisted that he would not resign, that he would fight down to the last vote in the Senate trial that would follow impeachment by the House of Representatives.

White House officials have been saying in San Clemente, Calif., where Mr. Nixon was completing a two-week holiday, that the President has not changed his mind.

Mr. Smith, the third-ranking member, said that "there may well be a substantial number of Republicans in the House who will now be ready to go to the President and tell him bluntly that he should resign." Asked why, he said that "a President under impeachment is going to be an albatross around the neck of the party in November—and I prophesy that the House is going to impeach him, although I do not expect him to be convicted by the Senate."

If the present tentative timetable is followed, the House will complete action on impeachment at the end of next month, just as the campaign is beginning, and the Senate will not complete the trial until well after Election Day.

Mr. Smith, who is retiring this year and thus faces no re-election pressures, said he thought it was "quite possible" that Representative John J. Rhodes, Republican of Arizona, the House minority leader, would again call upon Mr. Nixon to reconsider his attitude.

Once before, Mr. Rhodes publicly made such an appeal but he was severely criticized by hard-line Nixon defenders in the Republican Congressional bloc.

Mr. McClory, who has helped to draft second and third articles of impeachment, dealing with abuses of Presidential power and defiance of committee subpoenas, and who plans to support them, said that he expected to hear calls for the President "to look at his options again" this week.

"There are a few Republican members who are still in touch with him," Mr. McClory said.

"An enlarged group" of Republicans in the House, the influential Illinois legislator said, is reaching the conclusion that the impeachment process will tear their party and the political fabric of the country apart.

Mr. Dennis said that although "there probably will be a lot more talk" about resignation, he doubted that the President would give in, because to do so would be widely regarded as an admission that he had committed impeachable offenses.

The Party's Divided'

The Indiana lawmaker conceded that for members running for re-election this fall, "it's going to be very, very tough if they vote to impeach; the party's divided."

Mr. Dennis himself faces a difficult campaign for re-election against Philip R. Sharp, a college professor who has run against him twice before. Mr. Sharp came within 2,500 votes of unseating Mr. Dennis four years ago.

"This time I feel all right," Mr. Dennis said.

"But in any event, I've cast the die, and I'm going to have to live with it. I think I reflected the feeling of my district — my mail shows it — but whether I have or haven't, that's the way it has to be."

Man at Ford Speech Queried on Food Bag

CANTON, Ohio, July 28 (UPI)—A man with a brown paper bag in his arms drew secret service agents' attention during Vice President Ford's speech yesterday at the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The agents stood by the man, 51-year-old Charles Vicker of Canton, and, when he started to open the bag, questioned him about its contents. They also asked him about the contents of his pockets.

The bag contained ice cream and chocolate cookies. Mr. Vicker's pockets contained a Japanese-made pocket watch. He said he had a small pocketknife to sharpen pencils.

"I didn't think I would be asked about the bag," Mr. Vicker said. "There were plenty of other people in the crowd with bags."