

White House Remarks Now Reflect

Nixon Termed Confident 'Fairness' Will Prevail

By JOHN HERBERS
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 29 — All last week, Ronald L. Ziegler and other presidential assistants issued caustic remarks about the members and staff of the House Judiciary Committee, accusing them of being unfair to President Nixon in the face of evidence of his innocence.

Today, after the committee had approved one article of impeachment and was preparing to vote on another, the White House remarks carried a tone of restraint and respect for all members of the House.

Gerald L. Warren, the deputy White House press secretary, said the only thing the White House was doing to head off impeachment was to rely on the fairness of the House members to clear the President on the basis of the evidence.

"We feel the House members will not shirk their constitutional responsibility and will weigh the facts and evidence and not vote for impeachment," Mr. Warren said.

So confident is Mr. Nixon and his aides of the outcome, he said, that no one in the White House is thinking of a Senate trial.

No Plan for TV

In a long news briefing, however, Mr. Warren left the impression that White House officials were searching for some new strategy in pressing the President's case. He said, however, there was no plan for Mr. Nixon to go on national television to explain his side further, as suggested yesterday by Representative John J. Rhodes of Arizona, the House Republican leader.

Mr. Nixon, who returned last night from a 16-day stay in San Clemente, Calif., discussed the impeachment situation today with his assistants and reviewed with his lawyers the tape recordings that he will turn over to Federal Judge John J. Sirica, as required by the Supreme Court. The first 20 of some 64 subpoenaed conversations by the special prosecutor,

Leon Jaworski, are to be submitted to the court tomorrow.

Despite repeated assurances that Mr. Nixon will escape impeachment, the President's top assistants have begun to acknowledge that recent events—the Supreme Court decision against him, the impeachment momentum in the House, the defection of some Republicans and Southern Democrats from his defense—have caused deep shock at the White House.

Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., the White House chief of staff, conferred with Mr. Nixon aboard the President's plane last night and then told reporters that Mr. Nixon's chances of escaping impeachment were now "more uncertain" because of "very severe losses" of the last week. Mr. Ziegler said "this is a very tough time." But both insisted that Mr. Nixon would be cleared in the end.

There was evidence that the President's assistants had not expected six Republicans on the Judiciary Committee to vote for impeachment—Dean Burch, a Presidential counselor, had predicted a solid Republican stand for the President—nor had they expected the Supreme Court decision to be unanimous against Mr. Nixon.

Mr. Warren would not say today whether the President was considering easing some of the opposition against him in Congress by complying with the Judiciary Committee's subpoenas for additional evidence, now that the Supreme Court has ruled he must supply much of the same materials to the courts.

Asked if the President would continue to defy the committee subpoena, Mr. Warren said he could not speak for the future, but for the present, "our position has not changed in that matter."

Nor has Mr. Nixon's decision not to resign in the face of the opposition been altered in any way, he said.

Restraint and Respect for House Members

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