

N.Y.T. 8-9-74

Greenspan Says He Would Stay As Council's Head if Ford Asks

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8 (Reuters) — Alan Greenspan said today he would stay on as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under the Presidency of Gerald R. Ford, if he is asked.

The New York business economist said at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Banking Committee that he would consider it a privilege if Mr. Ford asked him to remain as chairman.

President Nixon nominated Mr. Greenspan on July 23 to the post to succeed Herbert Stein, who is retiring.

The committee did not approve the nomination today. Staff officials said this was

not because it was controversial but solely to give Vice President Ford, assuming he is soon to be President, the chance to reconfirm his desire to have Mr. Greenspan as chairman of the council.

Mr. Greenspan outlined his free-market economic views before the committee.

He said he favored a tight-money policy and a balanced budget to combat inflation, which he sees continuing for at least one year and possibly two.

Mr. Greenspan found himself at odds with the Federal Reserve Board's chairman, Arthur F. Burns, on several economic points except for a tight-money plan.

Mr. Greenspan opposed any wage-price control policy. Dr. Burns favors a new agency to monitor wages and prices.

The Reserve's chief favors more vigorous enforcement of the antitrust laws. Mr. Greenspan said antitrust policy had little relation to higher prices.

It appeared that Senate confirmation would be certain for Mr. Greenspan, although he Mr. Greenspan, although he was questioned closely by Senator William Proxmire, Democrat of Wisconsin, on whether his retention of ownership of his economic consulting concern, the Townsend-Greenspan Company, Inc., represented a conflict of interest.

Mr. Greenspan said he would not accept any earnings from the company, and had severed all links with the concern, which has for clients some of the nation's biggest banks and industrial concerns. He said his economic decisions would be made without regard to the effect on his former clients.

Mr. Greenspan said he opposed any tax cuts at this time or oil import quotas. He added that he believed the price of oil would drop at service stations if the flow of oil continued at its present rate.

He also expressed deep concern over the higher rate of inflation, and said that, if it continued "our system will not hold together in its present form."

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