

House Panel Could Recall Ford

Washington.

A spokesman for President Ford said yesterday it would "be up to the House Judiciary Committee to decide whether Mr. Ford would answer further questions on his pardon of former President Nixon.

White House Press Secretary Ronald Nessen made the statement when he was asked whether Mr. Ford would provide answers to questions put to him Thursday by Representative Elizabeth Holtzman (Dem-N.Y.), during Mr. Ford's appearance before the House Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Criminal Justice.

Miss Holtzman, complaining that the subcommittee had not scheduled adequate time to get to the bottom of the pardon matter, put her questions rapid-fire to Mr. Ford, who did not attempt to answer all of them. Nessen said the President had been prepared to answer all questions, but that Miss Holtzman "did not give the president much of a chance" to reply.

The subcommittee, headed by Representative William Hungate of Missouri, is expected to decide whether to continue its investigation and call more witnesses to testify when Congress reconvenes after the November elections.

Mr. Ford, in his historic appearance before the congressional panel, testified that he granted the pardon September 8 solely "out of my concern to serve the best interests of my country." He said, "There was no deal, period."

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