

Ford Rejects Nixon's Ideas On Power

Chicago

President Ford rejected yesterday Richard Nixon's view that a President may break laws when necessary, and said that, unlike Mr. Nixon, he does not consider himself a "sovereign."

"It's so foreign to our society," Mr. Ford said.

He rejected Mr. Nixon's concept of presidential power during a primary campaign news conference with the Northern Illinois Newspaper Association, when a questioner quoted Mr. Nixon as having said Thursday, "It is all right for a President to break the law in certain circumstances."

Raising his voice slightly, Mr. Ford said, "I don't agree."

He looked surprised when asked if he considers a President to be a "Sovereign," as Mr. Nixon stated he does.

"I certainly do not," Mr. Ford replied. "And I do not expect the public to treat me that way ... It's so foreign to our society."

United Press

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