

# President talks about 'the book'

Associated Press

CANYON, Tex. — President Ford, speaking last night of the book, "The Final Days," said, "If it's accurate, that's the record; if not, it's tragic."

The book, by Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, depicts former President Nixon as emotionally upset, possibly suicidal and drinking heavily during the last days of his administration.

Earlier this month, Ford said he could not personally verify those characterizations.

In response to a question at a public forum at West Texas State University, Ford said he had not read the book.

"I hope the book is accurate," the President said. "I'm not qualified to pass judgment on all the incidents and stories alleged."