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Ford's Stand On a Pardon For Hunt

Canyon, Tex.

President Ford said Saturday he will consider pardoning Watergate conspirator Howard Hunt only after his case is reviewed by the Justice Department and a recommendation is made.

Mr. Ford was asked how he would handle the petition from Hunt for a pardon during a question-and-answer period at West Texas State University at the end of a two-day campaign trip to Texas.

"That petition will be handled as any other request and will go to the Department of Justice. If and when they make a recommendation to me, of course I'll consider it," Mr. Ford said.

He said it would be "unfair and improper" to say what he would do in advance of such a review.

United Press