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## The Warren Decision

The sensible and dignified arrangement worked out between President-elect Nixon and Chief Justice Warren ends the confusion about whether the Chief Justice is staying or leaving. He is doing both.

By remaining on the bench through June and then retiring, Chief Justice Warren helps to remove the Supreme Court from the political category as a captured prize. Not only will this avoid disrupting the work of the Court in the term already begun, but it will smooth the transition for the Chief Justice eventually named by President Nixon.

Chief Justice Warren's letter of resignation to President Johnson had an unfortunate delayed-action fuse that tied it to prior approval of Associate Justice Fortas as his replacement. The Senate ruled otherwise, and both resignation and appointment were engulfed in vituperative attacks on the "Warren Court" and Mr. Fortas. When Chief Justice Warren swears in Mr. Nixon as the next President in January, a commendable cease-fire will be in effect between the executive and judicial branches of the Federal Government.

Chief Justice Warren is a brilliant example of how a man of character can grow in high office. He will leave behind a record of decisions and respect for the integrity of the Court that will be difficult for any successor to match. The "Warren Court" will be remembered not for the small attacks on it, but for the towering judicial figure who helped to add luster to the Court's meaning.