

Nixon convinced of his innocence during final days

NEW YORK (AP) — As the world around him was caving in during his last week as president, Richard Nixon was still convinced he had not committed an impeachable offense and was determined to "fight it out," Newsweek magazine reported yesterday.

But some of Nixon's top staff members, including White House Chief of Staff Alexander Haig, sought way to show Nixon that resignation was the only way out.

"If I knew there was an impeachable offense, I would not make the Senate go through the agony of trying to prove it," the Newsweek article quotes Nixon as telling a meeting of his Cabinet on Aug. 6, 1974, three days before he resigned. "I will go through this with my head high — right up to the end, if it comes."

The Newsweek article is the second installment of excerpts from the book, "The Final Days," by Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, due for publication next month.

The authors' disclosures of high-level complicity in the

Watergate scandal won a Pulitzer prize for their newspaper. Newsweek's first installment painted a picture of a broken Richard Nixon in his last days, drinking too much, crying and threatening suicide. The assertions were disputed by Nixon's two sons-in-law, Edward Cox and David Eisenhower, who said they saw nothing to indicate Nixon was mentally unstable in his final days in office.

In the final excerpts, Nixon is shown steadfastly against resigning, outraged at suggestions that he quit and angry with the press for "haunting" him.

The article also tells of futile attempts by Nixon aides Bob Haldeman and John Ehrlichman to obtain pardons from Nixon for their part in the Watergate affair. The article says Haldeman's request to Haig for a pardon from Nixon "sounded as if Haldeman was warning that he would send Nixon to jail if he didn't get a pardon."

The article says that during Nixon's last days, then Vice President Ford "seemed matter-of-fact and somewhat removed," expecting Nixon to resign and himself to become president.

During the Aug. 6 cabinet meeting, then Vice President Ford is quoted as telling Nixon, "I'm in a difficult position. I share your view that the whole episode is a real tragedy. Nobody has more admiration and affection for you. I made a decision yesterday that because of commitments to Congress and the public, I will have no further comments on the issue, because I am a party in interest."

"Sure, there will be impeachment. I can't predict the Senate outcome. I will make no comment concerning this. You have given us the finest foreign policy this country has ever had, a superb job, and the people appreciate it."

Corporation names wanted

FTC crackdown requested

WASHINGTON (UPI) — It may be advertised as "mama's old family recipe," says Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D., but chances are it's turned out by the ton by some giant food corporation.

And that, Abourezk said Sunday, is "deceptive advertising" that ought to be stopped by the Federal Trade Commission.

Abourezk and five other senators asked the FTC to crack down on large corporations advertising themselves as "small or family-owned businesses."

The FTC, he said, should require subsidiaries to identify their parent firms in advertisements.

Abourezk, a member of the Senate Select Committee on

Small Business, said many people prefer buying from small or family owned businesses because they feel they get better quality, personal service and prompt attention to complaints.

"This is exactly why large corporations often try to mislead consumers into thinking a gigantic company is a small business," he said. "This is not only deceptive advertising, but it also robs the small business of its most important asset."

The senator cited examples of what he charged was misleading advertising: Dad's Root Beer made by the Illinois Central Railroad, Pepperidge Farms bakery products made by the Campbell Soup Co., Sara Lee

Celeste Pizza — "mama's old family recipe" — made by Quaker Oats.

Abourezk also said the "uncle" of the woman who praises Madria-Madria Sangria on television is one of the Gallo Brothers.

The senator said advertisers should be required to identify their parent corporations so consumers would not be misled into believing certain products were produced by competitors.

"It is obviously unfair when one corporation is advertising two of its own productions as

if they were legitimately competing products," he said.

Abourezk said Bristol-Meyers makes both Excedrin and Bufferin, while Sterling Drug makes Bayer Aspirin, Cope, Midol and Vanquish.

Breakfast cereals, he said, are made by just four major companies and tire manufacturers sell their products under dozens of brand names.

"The fact is that the only difference between many of these products is how they are advertised," he said.

Pollution: it's a crying shame

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124 Sparks, April 6, 7:00 PM

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