

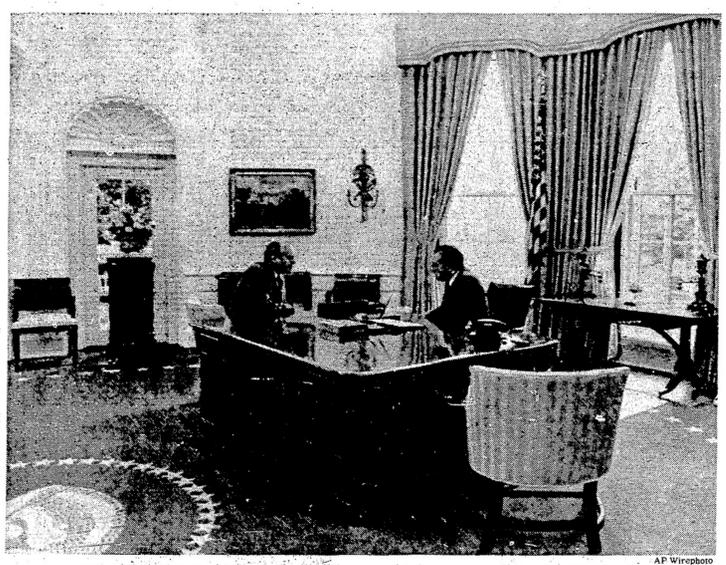
The Weather Today: Cloudy, chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs in the 70 to mid-80s. Tomorrow: Cloudy, chance of showers or thunderstorms. Highs around 80. Local Data: Page B-3. 123rd Year, No. 221

PRINTED IN COLOR Richmond Times-Dispatch

129,406 Virginia's State Newspaper 15 Cents

Richmond, Virginia 23219 Friday, August 9, 1974

Nixon Resigns



Gerald R. Ford, Richard M. Nixon Talked More Than an Hour in President's Office

National Interest Is Cited; Ford to Take Oath Today

From Wire Dispatches WASHINGTON — President Richard M. Nixon resigned Thursday night, effective at noon today, telling the nation "America needs a full-time president and a full-time Congress," freed of the pressures of Watergate and impeachment. Nixon, in his final broadcast address from the Oval Office of the White House, said he leaves without bitterness toward his foes, with thanks for those who have supported him through the months of Watergate disclosures and crises. He relinquished the White House to Vice President Gerald R. Ford, who is to take the oath of office as the 38th president at noon. "The leadership of America is in good hands," Nixon said. Nixon, his face grim but his voice steady, said he was stepping aside in the national interest. His base of support in Congress, he said, had eroded to the point at which he would not have backing for the crucial decisions that confront the president. In that situation, he said, the constitutional process that would have been served by impeachment has been fulfilled, and there is no longer a need to prolong the struggle.

Nixon said he would have preferred to fight to the end for the job he won in a landslide nearly two years ago. "But the interests of the nation must always come before any personal consideration," Nixon said. "I have never been a quitter," Nixon declared. "To leave office before my term is completed is abhorrent to every instinct in my body, but as President I must put the interests of America first." Nixon said he did so in resigning the job he had sought through nearly two decades. Nixon vowed that he will continue to work for the "great causes" to which he has been devoted throughout his political life. Nixon said he began his presidency 5 1/2 years ago by dedicating his service to the furtherance of peace. "I've done my very best...to be true to that pledge," he said. He said he believes that because of his quest, the world today is a safer place. "This more than anything is what I hope will be my legacy to you, to our country, as I leave the presidency," he said. "To have served in this office is to have felt a very personal sense of kinship with each and every American," he said. "In leaving it, I do so with this prayer: May God's grace be with you in all the days ahead."

Jaworski Denies Bargains Sought; House Won't Act

From Wire Dispatches WASHINGTON — The Watergate special prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, said after President Nixon's resignation speech Thursday night that no deals had been either made or offered that would have given the President immunity from prosecution after he leaves office. "There has been no agreement or understanding of any sort between the President or his representatives and the special prosecutor relating in any way to the President's resignation," Jaworski said in a statement issued by his office. Jaworski's words, combined with the fact that Nixon made no mention of the immunity issue in his address to the nation, left unresolved, at least for the moment, the prospect that Nixon might be indicted and stand trial for crimes stemming from the Watergate scandals.

House Action Over

Albert's statement indicated he had rejected a proposal by Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield that impeachment and a Senate trial continue regardless of whether Nixon quit. Albert said the House Judiciary Committee "will have to make its report [on impeachment] back to the House for it to take some action on it."

The Inside Story

Three Sections 46 Pages Amusements B-10-12 Area B-1-6; A-7 Ask Andy C-16 Business A-9-11 Comics C-16 County, City B-1-6; A-7 Editorials A-12 Goren on Bridge B-11 Horoscope C-16 Jumble B-10 Living Today B-7-9 Market Tables A-10-11 Obituaries B-2 Sports C-1-6 State News B-1-7; A-7 TV & Radio C-17 Wilson B-10

Related Stories RICHARD NIXON'S career in politics. Page A-6. ONE PHRASE sums up both the success and the failure of Nixon. Page A-8. JAMES RESTON discerns an almost audible sigh of relief in the capital. Page A-13. GERALD R. FORD is perceived by friends as the solid sort of man the nation needs now. Page A-4. REPUBLICAN prospects in November's election are expected to improve; the question is, how much? Page A-13. TEXT of President Nixon's speech. Page A-5.

Ford Says Kissinger Will Remain in Post

From Wire Dispatches ALEXANDRIA Gerald R. Ford said Thursday night that President Nixon "made one of the greatest personal sacrifices for the country" by resigning. Appearing outside his home shortly after Nixon's announcement, Ford said he plans to continue Nixon's foreign policies, with Henry A. Kissinger remaining as secretary of state. "I want him to be my secretary of state and I'm glad to announce he will be secretary of state," said the man who will become the nation's 38th President at noon today. Ford said he expects "a spirit of cooperation between the new president and the Congress."

Ford emerged from his house about 15 minutes after Nixon finished his address. The vice president told the crowd of newsmen and 200 to 300 onlookers that he considered this "one of the most difficult and very saddest periods and one of the very saddest incidents I have ever witnessed." Ford spoke for 10 minutes. He emphasized that his administration would pursue peace, praised Kissinger as "a very great man" and said the foreign policies developed under Nixon would be continued. Spectators applauded at the mention of Kissinger. Ford said he and Kissinger "will be working in the pursuit of peace."

Resigning Day Oddly Normal

By Charles McDowell Times-Dispatch Washington Correspondent WASHINGTON — The Shenandoah Valley was rainy, peaceful and eternal. The voice on the radio, from Washington, sounded unduly excited, no matter how big the news. The voice was saying that Richard M. Nixon was expected to announce his resignation as president before the end of this day, Thursday, Aug. 8, 1974. George Macheras, proprietor of the Southern Inn in Lexington, rang up a lunch bill and said very softly, "Six months ago a lot of people like me were still for this fellow, still hoping he could pull out of it. Now he's got an alternative. None." A few doors down Main Street, in front of McCrum's drugstore, two other men were discussing the President. They had discussed the weather and a couple of other things before they got to him. "Well, I hope he doesn't do it," the first man said. "When I think back to how it was when he took over, I have to say he did great things for this country." "I believe I can tell you what his problem was," said the second man, smiling slightly and exaggerating his mountain accent. "He got in bad trouble with the law." At 12:45 p.m., the radio in the car was playing "Wildwood Flower" and some other numbers like that. There was a drizzle. The fields looked shining green and fog hid the tops of the mountains. The radio in the Texaco station was on a shelf above the little cans of gas and oil additives. A large man in blue coveralls and a wiry man in farmer's clothes and a straw hat were sitting in the station talking. When the 1 o'clock news came on, they stopped talking and listened. Ronald L. Ziegler said in a choked voice that the President would speak to the nation at 9 p.m. An announcer said the President had told Vice President Gerald R. Ford he would resign. When that was over, the wiry man said, "Cecil, what ever happened to that little truck Albert Straub had?" The big man replied, "He traded it on another's." Back in the car, the strongest radio station was one in Waynesboro, "the big No. 1, Radio 97 from the power tower." The big No. 1 broke into its music and commercials for an editorial. It was about a parking controversy in Waynesboro. The big No. 1 sided with the retail merchants, against more or higher parking fees. THERE WAS NEWS at 1:30. A bank robber had been sentenced to jail. The second item was that Virginia Congressman Robert W. Daniel Jr., a Republican, had said the President's resignation would be "wise and proper." Virginia Congressman Stanford E. Farris, another Republican, had said he would vote for impeachment if the President did not resign. The first copies of the afternoon Waynesboro News-Virginian came off the press at 1:47, just two minutes late. A traveler bought a stickily fresh one at the front counter of the newspaper office. The streamer headline said: "Nixon to Quit." It was printed in red ink. Pat Velenovsky, the managing editor, was sitting at a desk in the newsroom looking at the red headline. It was the first red one he had ever used. The type was the largest he could get, 72 points, and it had been doubled in size by a photographic process. Velenovsky had written the headline early in the morning, and decided about noon to use it when a wire service reported that the Republican leader in the House, John J. Rhodes, had said the President definitely was resigning. Edward P. Berlin Jr., the editor of The News-Virginian, walked in looking at the red headline and said he hoped Velenovsky would like it as much after the President's speech as he did right now. Velenovsky said he was not coming to work Friday if the red headline was wrong. Berlin went back to his office and resumed drafting an editorial for today. Gazing at the paper in his typewriter, Berlin said, "I have never known a man who wanted to be remembered by history as much as Richard Nixon. I have sympathetic feelings for the man. Maybe Ford will have a chance to pull things back together." There was sunshine on Afton mountain, puddles beside Interstate 64. The big No. 1 had an announcement at 2:15: at the Greater Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Fair there would be a greased-pole-climbing contest at 10 p.m. THERE WAS FOG at the very top of the mountain, and nobody could see anything from the great glass dining room of the Holiday Inn perched over Rockfish Valley. A few people were eating quietly, looking at their food. A sign on the dining room cash register said: "If you think our beef is high, cigarettes are \$11.60 a pound." In the lobby, a middle-aged couple was talking with the clerk about a reservation for the night at another Holiday Inn, perhaps in Kingsport, Tenn., or Abingdon, or in the Roanoke area. The man was for getting as far down the road as possible. His wife wanted to be sure to be settled for the evening by 9 p.m. The man could not seem to understand her concern about 9 p.m., and the wife said, "You know, the program on television." "What program?" he said. He was a little irritated. "You know, the speech," she said. "Yes, the speech," he said, and they told the



Official White House Photograph of Gerald R. Ford