

Impeachment

Like a boil on the body politic, the Watergate tapes crisis is coming to a head. The refusal of the President to yield up the secret tapes has led to the firing of special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox and Deputy Atty. Gen. William Ruckelshaus and the resignation of Atty. Gen. Elliot Richardson.

Cox's ouster followed his refusal to obey a presidential order to halt his court actions to obtain the President's secret tapes. Ruckelshaus was fired for refusing to fire Cox, and Richardson quit because he believed the President had violated an understanding

with Congress that Cox would have a free hand in his handling of the Watergate investigation.

Cox replied with simple eloquence to the President's audacious moves: "Whether our's shall continue to be a government of laws and not of men is now for Congress and ultimately the American people to decide." The time for that decision is before us.

The editorial staff of the **Daily Nebraskan** urges the immediate undertaking of impeachment proceedings against President Richard M. Nixon.

Nixon has attempted to circumvent, pervert and overrule the Constitution. He has held himself above the law. The American people should tolerate such actions no longer.

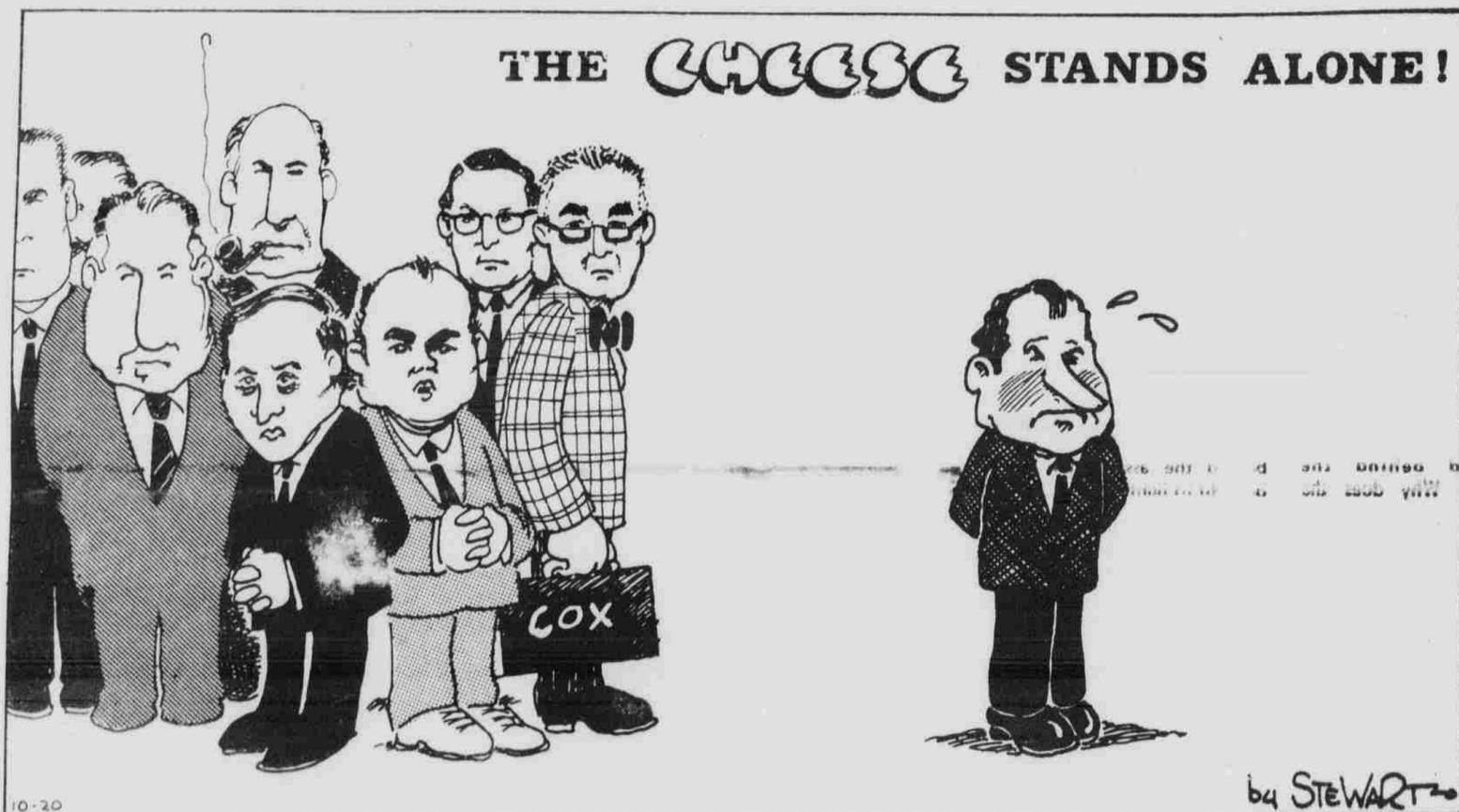
He has claimed presidential immunity in the Watergate tapes case. The Constitution grants no such immunity. The President has said and has shown by his recent actions that he is not confined by the legal obligations

which face all citizens. As the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia said in its ruling that ordered Nixon to give the tapes to Judge John. J. Sirica, the inclusion of the impeachment clause in the Constitution proves that holding office grants the President no escape from those legal obligations.

It seems that the President by withholding the tapes might be involved in the obstruction of justice, since those recorded conversations may confirm or finally discredit much of the conflicting Watergate hearing testimony. This sort of action reveals a disregard for historic American principles.

Nixon has urged the Justice Dept. to make a vigorous probe of the Watergate scandal. But this hypocritical plea should not camouflage the fact that it is Nixon himself who is helping to delay the probe. If the President is not willing to subject himself to the law, then Congress must subject him to it.

Michael (O.J.) Nelson
Mary Voboril
Tim Anderson



Mideast war effects stretch past desert

john michael
oshea
distant
thunder

Once again the Holy Land is at war. And for the fourth time in its short history, Israel finds itself called to arms.

At first, this most recent outbreak of hostilities was viewed by many Americans as another type of football game. In some quarters, pools were established based on the number of days the Arabs would last.

But as the war rages on, it becomes clear that this war is indeed no joke, and that it will have consequences far beyond the small desert areas where the fighting is taking place.

This particular conflict bears even more of the earmarks of a holy war than the past Mideast episodes. The initial attacks coincided not only with the Hebrew day of fasting and atonement, Yom Kippur, but also took place during the month of Ramadan, a month of daily fasting, during which time it is believed a warrior killed in a holy war will go straight to heaven.

A second ominous aspect of the conflict is the superpowers' use of the fighting as a testing grounds for their latest military hardware. The Russians seem particularly guilty of this tactic by supplying their T62 tank—which has never been tried in combat—to the Arabs and their supply of the ultramodern SA6 mobile anti-aircraft missiles.

With the exception of certain sophisticated air-to-air missiles and some Vietnam surplus "smart" bombs, the U.S. has seemed more inclined to send Israel older equipment that has not made a very good showing when compared to the newer Russian equipment.

There is little question in my mind the Israelis eventually will win this war. But even as the battle rages on, a question must rest heavily on the minds of Arabs and Israelis alike, and on Americans as well; what will happen when the fighting ends?

For the Arabs it will mean another defeat, but it will be at least a defeat with honor. Yet the Arab leaders also will know how dependent they were on the Russians for their fair showing and will realize the tightrope they will be forced to walk when relying on supplies from the USSR.

For Americans it probably will mean suffering through the consequences of an oil slowdown because it aided Israel.

However, it is important that the U.S. make it "perfectly clear" that it will not allow itself or its foreign policy to be blackmailed by Arab oil.

Secondly, Americans must be willing to sacrifice plans for detente if the Russians continue their massive arms shipments to the Arab countries. Detente must work in both directions, or it becomes just another hollow phrase in the State Department's junk box.

Serious questions already are being raised about the Soviet Union's motives in seeking eased world tensions. This is just another step backward for any attempt for world cooperation and peace.

The country which will be asking itself the most difficult questions will be Israel. Even if their greatest military expectations are realized, and they totally annihilate the Arab armies, what will they have accomplished? How many years will it take the Arabs to resupply and start again?

This latest showing of Arab military desire finally should convince Israel that it cannot survive forever on its military might, but now must seek an accord with its neighbors. It seems that the time finally will be right for a settlement in the Mideast.

Any Mideast accord will have to include provisions for at least four major areas of concern. First, the Arabs will demand the return of lands captured in the Six Day War. Second, Israel will demand assurances of its security from its neighbors. An important element probably will be Israel's retention of the Golan Heights.

A third point of importance to both sides will be a settlement on access to Jerusalem. King Hussein of Jordan and President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia have proposed plans that would make the west bank at least a semi-autonomous state. The final major consideration would be the resettlement of the Palestinians displaced by the earlier fighting, perhaps in a newly created state.

Perhaps now that the Arabs have washed themselves clean of their 1967 humiliation and with a victorious, but war-weary Israel, peace at last can be found.