

Nixon Had A Surprise Birthday Party

Washington

Richard M. Nixon, reported earlier as having spent a quiet 62nd birthday last Thursday, actually was fettered at a surprise birthday party at his San Clemente estate, one of the partygoers said last night.

"We joked and had a lot of fun," said writer Victor Lasky, adding that a Nixon friend, Robert Abplanalp, originated the idea for the party.

Those attending included Lasky, Abplanalp, Charles G. Rebozo, also a friend of Mr. Nixon; William Griffin, an attorney for Abplanalp; and Sol Mandel, a Miami restaurateur.

"It was a big surprise to him. He didn't know we were coming," Lasky said.

Associated Press

Tues. Jan. 14, 1975 ★★★★★ San Francisco Chronicle 7

No Flight Bill for Nixon

Washington

White House officials said yesterday that former President Nixon will not be charged for any portion of his flight home to San Clemente, the day he gave up the presidency.

And the government has "done everything" it could to see that Mr. Nixon's per-

sonal belongings were made available for transfer to his San Clemente estate, a White House spokesman said.

Mr. Nixon's chief aide, former White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler, said in a weekend interview that federal officials were being "vindictive" toward Mr. Nixon by withholding

his personal belongings and by reportedly preparing to bill him for part of his flight home.

A report on Friday quoted a White House spokesman as saying Mr. Nixon would be charged \$8440 for half of the journey aboard the presidential jetliner, Air Force One, because he was no longer President after pass-

ing "a point near Jefferson City, Mo." at the moment when Gerald Ford took over.

Officials denied yesterday there was any plan to charge Mr. Nixon and said President Ford had instead directed the Defense Department, which operates the aircraft, to pick up all of the costs of the flight.

United Press

SFChronicle San Clemente \$506,000

Nixon Mortgage to Be Paid Off

Los Angeles

The remaining \$506,000 due on former President Nixon's San Clemente estate is expected to be paid by tomorrow, the attorney for the sellers of the property said yesterday.

Charles Horning, attorney for the Cotton Estate, said he had been informed by Mr. Nixon's personal attorney, Dean S. Butler of Los Angeles, that a certified check for the \$506,000 plus about \$17,000 in interest will arrive in his office as a six-month extension on the final mortgage payment which expires this week.

Last year a White House statement said Mr. Nixon's share of the last "balloon" payment on the estate, which he purchased in 1969 for \$1.5 million, would be \$226,440.

The rest, the statement said, would be the obligation of an investment company formed by industrialist Robert H. Abplanalp and banker Charles G. Rebozo. The company, the B & C Investment Co., purchased roughly 23 of the 28.9 acres of the estate from Mr. Nixon in 1970 for a reported \$1,249,000.

Apparently when Nixon at-

orneys negotiated the six-month extension last July, about \$94,000 of the \$600,000 owed as the "balloon" payment was paid, leaving the \$506,000 plus interest that Horning referred to yesterday.

Horning said he is not certain how much of the payment he has been told he will receive will actually come from Mr. Nixon.

He indicated that Mr. Nixon's signature will not be on the check.

This week's expected payment will mean that Mr. Nixon and his partners have

paid off the San Clemente property.

The payment may renew speculation about the state of Mr. Nixon's finances.

Last summer, Butler described the former President as having a severe cash flow problem, and, so far as is known, Mr. Nixon has not sold off any of his major property assets since leaving the presidency.

However, there have been reports that Mr. Nixon may be receiving a sizable advance on his projected memoirs.

Los Angeles Times