An Icy Reception

At the Desert Ball in Washington last week, President Nixon, shaking hands in a reception line, unexpectedly reached over and patted the wife of Ambassador Telephore Yaguibou of Upper Volta on the chest three times.

Questioned later, Mrs. Yaguibou, who was wearing a gray tie-dye dress and a quarter-sized topaz pendant, said, "He patted me and said, "I like that." I don't know what he was referring to. He must have meant my topaz or my dress."

Judging by the reception President Nixon received at the Desert Ball (which benefited drought-stricken African nations) his Operation Candor has turned into Operation Awkward.

Nixon, who accompanied Pat to the ball unexpectedly, received about the iciest reception accorded him since his presidency began. The President looked ashen,

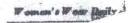
When he mounted the stage to make his remarks and waited for a thunder clam of applause, it never cames

Nime slipped out the side exit and, without ever saying good night to Pat, left her to sit all evening between Dr. James Cheek, president of Howard University, and David Parker, director of the Agency for Inhernational Development.



JAMES CHEEK Next to Pat

in New York city. so-



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Berly Real as Washington

"There ought to be a law that keeps men from talking at benefit balls," said a guest at the 2008 Ball which raised money for six famine-struck countries in Africa. President Nixon dropped by with his wife, who was honorary chairman of the benefit, and talked about how much used there was and how generous Americans are. Liberian Ambassador Peni made a long talk and Assistant Secretary of State David Newsom agoke.

The President left after saying he plans to go to Africa again during his three considering years in the White House, which is another way of saying beginning to the expect to have to quit. But there was a lieue scalause when he walked in it was embatrassing.