

# NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM

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**DREW PEARSON**

## Nixon Impressed By Egypt's Chief

WASHINGTON—The London Jewish Telegraph recently published a report that Richard Nixon, as he was beginning his new Wall Street law practice in 1963, offered to represent Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser for a \$2 million fee.

Although it is impossible to verify what Nixon may have said to Nasser in Cairo five years ago, it is true that Nixon courted the Egyptian strong man in 1963 as vigorously as he is now courting Jewish voters.

Such Egyptian newspapers as the Egyptian Gazette and Egyptian Mail quoted Nixon in June 1963 not only as praising Nasser but as condoning the work of German scientists in Egypt. The same quotations were later distributed by the official Arab Information Center in New York City on July 1, 1963.

It has been an open secret since Nasser came to power that he has offered refuge to Nazi war criminals and scientists who are willing to help develop new weapons for Egypt. There has been speculation that the German scientists are working on missiles, nuclear weapons and even poison gas. Red Cross observers have charged, for instance, that Egyptian troops used poison gas against the Royalists in the Yemen desert.

When Nixon in 1963 was asked for his comments on the use of German scientists, he was quoted by the Arab Information Center as reply-



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ing: "Of course the UAR is free to obtain technical assistance from any country, be it the United States, the Soviet Union or any other country.

"THERE IS NO reason for fear or alarm. It is quite obvious and known that President Nasser allows no chance for any foreign domination in his country. Actually, the policy adopted here is sound and admirable."

Nixon gave these views at a Cairo press conference following a private conference with Nasser.

Nixon said of the Egyptian leader: "I was very much impressed by President Nasser's strong personality, wisdom and immense knowledge. Judging by the conversation we had this morning, President Nasser was not only very knowledgeable in his country's own affairs and problems, but also and equally, in all the issues of the Arab world, Africa, Asia, eastern and western Europe, and the world at large."

Except for published but unconfirmed reports, there is no evidence that Nixon's favorable remarks were intended to butter up Nasser for the sake of a \$2 million fee. There is also no record that the Egyptian dictator ever retained the Nixon law firm.

Note: Nixon became in-

involved in the legal affairs of another dictator's family in 1966. He represented the illegitimate sons of Rafael Trujillo, the assassinated dictator of the Dominican Republic, who amassed a fabulous fortune during his 3-year rule. After his murder, his oldest son, Ramfis Trujillo, made off with most of the loot. The illegitimate sons retained Nixon to help them recover what they considered to be their fair share of the inheritance. A suit was brought in Geneva, Switzerland, where most of the money had been deposited in secret Swiss bank accounts.

MEANWHILE, this column has unearthed another case where Nixon appeared to be speaking for an important legal client when he wrote his semi-private letter to 2,000 Wall Streeters opposing what he described as "bureaucratic" federal regulation.

The client is Warner-Lambert, one of the larger drug firms of the United States, whose chairman Elmer Boost is a friend of Nixon's and helped to nudge the firm of Mudge, Stern, Baldwin and Todd into making Nixon its senior partner. The drug company, as one of the law firm's better-paying clients, was in a position to apply a little gentle persuasion.

Warner-Lambert, like all drug companies, is now regulated by the Food and Drug Administration and manufac-

tures peritrate, a drug used in the treatment of heart disease. In 1965 peritrate encountered the type of federal regulation which Nixon now apparently would like to restrict, and the Nixon firm handled the case for Warner-Lambert.

The federal government seized peritrate for using advertising not approved by the Food and Drug Administration and brought proceedings against Warner-Lambert under the Kefauver law in the U.S. Eastern District of New



York. In 1966 Warner-Lambert bowed to federal regulation and signed a consent decree agreeing that it would not use such advertising in the future.

The Nixon law firm has also represented Warner-Lambert before the Securities and Exchange Commission.

This now adds up to at least four important clients which the Nixon law firm has represented before federal regulatory agencies — Warner-Lambert; El Paso Natural Gas before the Federal Power Commission and the SEC, the Delaware and Hudson Railroad and the MK&T Railroad, both before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Since five members of the Nixon law firm are now devoting most of their time to running the Nixon campaign and since law partner John Mitchell is his campaign manager, the public has a right to know more about Nixon's views on federal regulation. Will he speak for the consumers or for his law firm when he gets into the White House? So far Nixon has refused to answer newspaper questions on "Meet the Press," "Issues and Answers," "Face the Nation" or any other television program.

## High Court Backs Fight On Work Law

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court invited a Long Beach, Calif., aviation plant worker today to continue her fight against state laws that restrict the number of hours women can work in certain industries.

Mrs. Velma L. Mengelkoch, an assembler at the North American Aviation plant in Los Angeles, attacked a California law that keeps women from working more than eight hours in any one day or more than 48 hours in a week in any manufacturing, mechanical or mercantile establishment.

She claimed violation of women's civil rights and was backed by the National Organization for Women, a group formed in 1966 in 45 states to promote women's rights under federal civil rights law.

Mrs. Mengelkoch's suit was dismissed last May by a federal court in California. Although the Supreme Court would not hear her appeal at this point, the justices directed her to pursue the case in the U.S. Circuit Court in San Francisco.

## Black Marketeering By Diplomats Claimed

NEW DELHI (AP)—Smuggled foreign products that are otherwise unavailable in India fetch a nice price in the black markets of New Delhi.

Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai indicated to Parliament that a special breed of smuggler has been observed and caught — members of the capital's considerable diplomatic community.

Twelve cases of "unauthorized importation of foreign goods" allegedly involving foreign diplomats were uncovered in the last two years, Desai said.

Among intercepted smuggled goods were \$10,000 worth of nylon saris, highly prized by Indian women.