



FRANK DEMARCO
... explains deed

Nixon Papers First Deed

Deed void

FRANK DEMARCO, the man who signed the deed transferring the Nixon papers to the Library of Congress, says the deed is void because it was thrown in his face by the White House.

After the deed was signed, Demarco says, the White House was destroyed by a fire. The deed was destroyed, he says, and he never saw it again.

The deed, Demarco says, was signed at the White House on March 7, 1969. It was a deed of gift, he says, and it was signed in the presence of several witnesses. The deed was destroyed by a fire on March 21, 1969.

Demarco says the deed was

said in in a telephone interview. "That was the whole purpose of retyping and re-signing the deed."

DeMarco first spoke publicly about an original deed March 7. But a Washington source said Friday that the White House had been unable to locate the deed, which DeMarco says was signed in California on April 21, 1969.

California Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr. has said the new deed was fraudulently backdated to April 1969 in an apparent effort to qualify the President

for a 10% \$576,000 income tax deduction for the papers.

The tax law was changed in July, 1969 to abolish such massive tax deductions for donation of personal papers.

Brown said he doubted the original deed ever existed.

During a question-and-answer session with Chicago businessmen Friday, Mr. Nixon said, "There has been no evidence of fraud on the part of the President. There may be evidence that he may owe more taxes."

That question currently is under investigation in Congress by the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation.

Mr. Nixon called the paperwork dealing with the delivery of the papers "a debatable technical point."

"If it was completed in time, as I understand it, I get the deduction. If it was not completed in time, I don't get the deduction. I pay the tax and the government gets to keep the papers," Mr. Nixon said.