

# NIXON IS HECKLED IN MIAMI ADDRESS

## Most Among 3,000 Cheer as He Lauds Health Plan at Hospital Dedication

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MIAMI, Feb. 14—While President Nixon spoke today at a St. Valentine's Day dedication of a hospital center, a chorus of voices at the rear of the crowd shouted intermittently, "Impeach Nixon Now."

There were cheers and applause, too, from most of the crowd of 3,000 gathered outside the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital Center, but the heckling was distracting. It was the most extensive Mr. Nixon has encountered since his landslide re-election in November of 1972.

Mr. Nixon, speaking into a microphone, managed to complete his 17-minute address by turning away from the hecklers and their signs, which carried such highly visible slogans as "Exorcise Nixon" and "Impeach and Expel Nixon." Several yards away and directly in front of the platform.

Ceremony at Cedars

The ceremony was held on the lawn of the hospital center in downtown Miami. Mr. Nixon agreed to participate in order to promote his proposal for national health insurance and to underscore his approval of the method in which the \$70-million, automated facility is being built—without Federal grants but with federal loan guarantees.

There was a heavy security detail, and the 2,000 invited guests were screened off on the hospital property. Several hundred others, who formed the bulk of the anti-Nixon demonstration, gathered on 14th Street before the Dade County Public Safety Department building facing the hospital.

The demonstrators, who received the permission of the police to picket, were an assortment of dissidents—

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citizens protesting the Nixon health insurance plan and promoting that of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts; the Impeach-Nixon Movement, including members of the United Farm Workers and other elements of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, and remnants of the antiwar movement.

Before the ceremony began shortly after noon, there was a war of signs between the demonstrators on the street and the invited persons on the inside. In response to the slogans for impeachment, the others scribbled and held aloft their own signs that said such things as "Three More Years," "Keep Nixon" and "Hang In There." Street off corridors and policemen kept the two groups apart.

It was a bright, clear day, and Mr. Nixon looked tan and relaxed when he appeared on the platform after a tour of the hospital. The hostile signs were displayed in his line of sight and some after he started his address. The "Impeach Nixon Now" signs began. The President spoke without notes and did not acknowledge the heckling. Because of the loud speaker system, his words were heard over the heckling.

But his sentences were punctuated by clearly audible insults. For example, when he said the health insurance plan would mean that "no American will ever be denied health care because of lack of ability to pay," a male voice from the crowd interrupted, "Pay your taxes."

When he made a reference to his Quaker background, there was a shout, "You're no Quaker, you're a faker."

Praising both the hospital's independence from Federal grants and his health insurance plan, Mr. Nixon said, "You know there is an easier way, and that gets back to whether it should be all Government or whether it should be built on the great private health care system that we have in this country. The easier way is just to increase the taxes, throw the private health care system out and let the Government do it all."

In this vein, he said, "When I go to a hospital, or when I call a doctor, I want that doctor to be working for the patient and not for the Federal Government and that is what this is all about."

Before he arrived here yesterday for a long weekend in the sun, Mr. Nixon underwent his annual physical examination—he was described in "excellent condition"—by a team of armed services doctors at the naval hospital in Bethesda, Md.