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Nixon gets '73 tax filing extension

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — President Nixon has been granted an extension in filing his 1973 income tax return because revisions are needed to comply with the recent Internal Revenue Service ruling on what deductions he can claim, his tax attorney said yesterday.

Arthur Blech said the President's tax return "has to be reworked" to be consistent with the reasoning used by the IRS in its earlier announcement that Nixon owed more than \$465,000 in back taxes and interest for 1969-72. Nixon has agreed to pay the entire amount.

The IRS report disallowed many deductions claimed by the President.

"It changes our position on many issues," Blech said.

Blech said Nixon may be able to

write off his entire 1974 income as deductible.

Though the President has agreed to pay the entire IRS assessment for 1969-72, the statute of limitations has passed for 1969 and that part of the payment could be considered a gift to the government, Blech said.

IRS laws allow a person to deduct such gifts up to 50 percent of his adjusted gross income. Thus the President could deduct about \$134,000 for paying what the IRS says he failed to pay in 1969.

"The man is entitled to the deduction," said Blech. "Whether he will elect to use it is another question."

"He may decide it's not wise to have a year where he doesn't pay income tax. He may simply say, 'hell with it, I'll pay my regular tax."