

Nixon Called 'Lonely, Troubled' By Rabbi Korff After Recent Visit

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif., Feb. 9 (UPI)—Richard M. Nixon, six months from a shattered presidency and with transition funds cut off, was described today by a confidant as a "lonely, troubled man."

Rabbi Baruch Korff, who heads the Nixon Justice Fund, visited with the former President at his oceanside villa here for three days.

"President Nixon is a lonely, troubled man who faces staggering legal fees and hospital bills that he cannot afford," Korff told a news conference at the San Clemente Inn.

The Justice Fund has undertaken the responsibility of paying Nixon's legal fees. (Its most recent reported effort was on the undeveloped Caribbean island of St. Lucia, whose 100,000 people were asked by a Korff ad in the bi-weekly newspaper to send money to Nixon at San Clemente.)

Korff said he discussed Watergate with the former President and Nixon told him, "I should not have allowed a climate to reverberate that

would ever lead to a Watergate."

Korff also quoted Nixon as saying, "It was wrong of me—and because of it I left office—I could not continue to subject this nation to a state of bedlam."

Korff referred to recent statements by others that Nixon was seeking a place in the Republican Party, or a presidential appointment as ambassador to China.

"The President has no such aspirations," Korff said. "It will not be months, it will be years" before Nixon might seek an active participation in government.

Transition funds for Nixon ended at midnight Saturday, cutting back the staff and ending the communications equipment provided former Presidents.

Nixon will keep only a staff of four—three secretaries and an office manager.

The only well-known hold-over is long time personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods.

Nixon held a party for the outgoing staff members Saturday night.

(The Associated Press reported that some of those at the party said Nixon had a tan and walked without a limp from his recent bout with phlebitis and an operation that almost killed him.)

Nixon Asked Aid In Scandal: Saxbe

NEW YORK, Feb. 9 — Former Attorney General William Saxbe said in an interview published here today that Richard M. Nixon personally — and unsuccessfully — pressured him to intervene in the Watergate scandal on the side of the former President.

Saxbe, who became Attorney General at the height of the Watergate scandal in late 1973 and has since been named ambassador to India, was quoted by People magazine as saying "Nixon himself felt that I should get involved in his defense at the Justice Department. This was the first approach — directly by Mr. Nixon.

"He called me over and we sat and talked about it."



Associated Press

Rabbi Korff: Nixon "faces staggering legal fees . . . that he cannot afford."