

# Nixon Got Subsidy of

## \$367,878

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In the first three months after Richard M. Nixon's resignation, the government spent at least \$367,878 to support the former president and his staff.

White House Press Secretary Ronald Nessen said yesterday the itemized list of expenses totaling \$367,878 is "not comparable" to the \$200,000 voted by Congress for Nixon's transition. He said only part had been charged against the \$200,000.

Nessen also disclosed that White House aides and Nixon representatives have been negotiating the possible return to the former president of such memorabilia as his collection of cartoons, model elephants, gavels and gowns belonging to his daughters and wife. At present, he said, Nixon does not have access to the memorabilia collected while he was in office.

**THE PRESS** secretary reported the \$367,878 spending total when questioned about a breakdown of expenditures by syndicated columnist Jack Anderson on Friday.

Nessen read from a letter Budget Director Roy L. Ash on Nov. 18, 1974, to Rep. Jack Brooks, D-Tex., chairman of a House subcommittee which has investigated government spending on Nixon's private residences. Nessen said the letter listed these categories of spending for the period from Aug. 9, 1974 to Nov. 7:

● \$107,000 for salaries of White House, Defense De-

partment and other government agencies detailed to the former president.

● \$47,000 in per diem expenses for these government employes to help pay their living expenses in San Clemente.

● \$2,419 for miscellaneous travel, including airline tickets for flights between Washington and San Clemente by the detailed officials.

● \$8,440 for the portion of Nixon's Aug. 9 flight from Washington to "a point near Jefferson City, Md.," where he ceased to be President. The cost of the rest of the flight to California was paid for by the military on orders of President Ford, Nessen said, adding that he did not have a figure for that.

● \$83,000 to crate and store Nixon papers in such facilities as the National Archives and the Executive Office Building.

● \$30,000 for such expenses as courier flights from Washington to San Clemente and for the operating expenses of communications facilities.

● \$52,160 spent by the General Services Administration to maintain and operate office facilities at San Clemente.

● \$34,540 spent by GSA for operation and maintenance of facilities at Key Biscayne, Fla.

**THE LAW** allowing transition expenses of former presidents states that the government will maintain an office for them. When asked why the government had paid the expenses of operations in both San Clemente and Key Biscayne, Nessen responded he had "no way of going beyond the figures to a philosophical justification of them."

Nessen said he did not have figures on the amount spent by the government since the Nov. 7 cutoff in Ash's letter.