Nixon Costs U.S. \$1 Million a Year

By Jack Anderson

It's going to cost the taxpayers keep Richard Nixon in his accustomed style.

Battling behind the scenes for this bountiful budget are two Nixon appointees, General Services Administrator Arthur Sampson and Budget Director

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to meet secretly with Nixon cost the Secret Service at least loaned him another five men, annual Air Force retirement he aides Ron Ziegler and Steve \$622,000 a year to protect the including three chauffeurs. Mr. collects on top of his \$42,500-aformer President.

the former President as a pri- talk about the entourage now placed quietly on the National to cut off military pensions to serving Mr. Nixon at San Cle- Park Service payroll. Then Sampson and Ash put mente. At least 32 persons are cided to request the royal sum but are paid by assorted governof \$850,000 for the transition. ment agencies. Their salaries ministration to keep the Nixon receive U.S. aid. Sen. Alan Routinely, President Ford sent add up to a whopping \$576,000. their request to Capitol Hill Because they are "on detail." they can also collect \$40 a day

On loan from the White House at a salary of \$42,500, for example, is former press secretary Ron Ziegler. He brought along peachment and conviction. Ex- his favorite press assistant, listing of all federal personnel advocate named Larry Finkelcept for a timely pardon, they pretty Dianne Sawyer, who detailed to the former Presineted, Mr. Nixon might have makes \$21,000. Yet there is no

complete seclusion that wise-A subcommittee headed by acres have dubbed San Cle- the close of business Sept. 23." Rep. Tom Steed (D-Okla.) has mente "Elba West." Yet the nonnow recommended slashing the speaking Mr. Nixon is attended the answers at public hearings

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And the loyal Sampson has asworking directly for Mr. Nixon signed 11 maintenance workers from the General Services Ad- repressive governments which estates in tip-top shape.

> ficulty getting full information on the Nixon spending that Sen. Joseph Montoya (D-N.M.) has fired off a private letter to the ing \$164 billion in foreign aid budget chief demanding "a comprehensive and complete ... A troubled young consumer

"This information," Montoya Mr. Nixon has gone into such added, "must be delivered to the subcommittee's offices by White House aide complained The Senator intends to take up inflation—at someone else's ex-

to \$393,000. This would include \$40,000 salary. A former Nixon Footnote: Sampson defended San Clemente, drawing down tended that the Lyndon Johnson transition had cost \$541.800.

> Washington Whirl-To combat inflation, Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) has proposed a 10 per cent salary cut for federal officials. He might set a better example if he gave up the \$7,800 retired officers who collect federal salaries in excess of \$36,-000. . . . We recently counted 40 Cranston (D-Calif.), using a dif-Congress has had so much dif-ferent definition, tallied 57 authoritarian regimes on the dole. All told, the American taxpayers have shelled out an astoundsince the end of World War II.

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NOTRY-GO-ROUNCE by JACK ANDERSON

WASHINGTON - It's going to cost the taxpayers well over \$1 million a year to keep Richard Nixon in his accustomed style.

Rattling behind the scenes for this bountiful budget are two Nixon appointees, General Services Administrator Art Sampson and Budget Director Roy Ash.

The day after Nixon gave up the presidency and retired to San Clemente in disgrace, Sampson flew out to California to meet secretly with Nixon aides Ron Ziegler and Steve Bull. They talked about all the money it would take to set up the former president as a private citizen.

Then Sampson and Ash put their heads together and decided to request the royal sum of \$850,000 for the transition. Routinely, President Ford sent their request to Capitol Hill with his blessing.

There was an outcry from members of Congress who complained this was too much money to lavish on a presient who had resigned to avoid impeachment and conviction. Except for a timely pardon, they noted, Nixon might have wound up in prison where his keep would have cost the taxpayers considerably less.

A subcommittee headed by Rep. Tom Steed, D-Okla., has now recommended slashing the \$850,000 transition money down to \$393,000. This would include a \$60,000 pension and a \$96,000 staff, which Nixon will continue to draw for the rest of his life.

The generous Sampson has also exempted Nixon from paying rent on the government office space he is using in California. Sampson tried to tell us this merely avoids "double bookkeeping." But it also provides Nixon with \$100,000 worth of free office space, which won't have to come out of his budget.

In addition to all this, it will cost the Secret Service at least \$622,000 a year to protect the former president. This figure doesn't include another \$300,000, which is now spent to protect his estate at Key Biscayne, Fla. The bodyguards are expected to be withdrawn from Key Biscayne by the end of the year.

Sampson also doesn't like to talk-about the entourage which is now serving Nixon at San Clemente. At least 32 persons are working directly for Nixon but

are paid by assorted government agencies. Their salaries add up to a whopping \$576,000. Because they are "on detail," they can also collect \$40 a day for expenses.

On loan from the White House at a salary of \$42,500, for example, is former press secretary Ron Ziegler. He brought along his favorite press assistant, pretty Dianne Sawyer. who makes \$21,000. Yet there is no press office at San Clemente.

Nixon has gone into such complete seclusion that wiseacres have dubbed San Clemente "Elba West." Yet the nonspeaking Nixon is attended by speechwriter Ray Price at a \$40,000 salary. A former Nixon attorney, Mike Sterlacci, is also on "temporary assignment" at San Clemente, drawing down \$28,263 from the taxpayers.

The ex-president's loyal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, still collects her \$36,000 paycheck from the White House, and Steve Bill receives \$34,000 as Nixon's chief errand boy. Seven other White House employes are "detailed" to Nixon.

The Defense Department has

loaned him another five men, including three chauffeurs. Nixon's personal maid and valet, meanwhile, have been placed quietly on the National Parks Service payroll. And the loyal Sampson has assigned 11 maintenance workers from the General Services Administration to keep the Nixon estates in tip-top shape.

Congress has had so much difficulty getting full information on the Nixon spending that Sen. Joseph Montoya, D-N.M., has fired off a private letter to the budget chief demanding "a comprehensive and complete listing of all federal personnel detailed to the former president ...

"This information." Montova added, "must be delivered to the sub-committee's offices by the close of business September 23." The senator intends to take up the answers at public hearings today (Sept. 25).

Footnote: Sampson defended the Nixon budget as appropriate and necessary. He contended that the Lyndon Johnson transition had cost \$541,800, which didn't include the time spent cataloguing the Johnson papers while he was still in office.

WASHINGTON WHIRL: To combat inflation, Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., has proposed a 10 per cent salary cut for federal officials. He might set a better example if he gave up the \$7,800 annual Air Force retirement, which he collects on top of his \$42,500-a-year Senate salary...Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D., will try to cut off military pensions to retired officers who collect federal salaries in excess of \$36,000...We recently counted 40 repressive governments which receive U.S. aid. Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., using a different definition, tallied 57 authoritarian regimes on the

All told, the American taxpayers have shelled out an astounding \$164 billion in foreign aid since the end of World War II...A troubled young consumer advocate, named Larry Finkelstein, wrote us a note just before he leaped to his death. The note urged the press to fight the "inordinate influence of special interest groups"...A frustrated White House aide complained to us: "Everyone wants to stop inflation - at someone else's expense."