

# Nixon Got Attorneys' Services Free

By Jack Anderson

President Nixon's personal attorneys, Herbert Kalmbach and Frank De Marco, Jr., have never billed him for handling his complex real estate transactions, income taxes and other legal problems.

The Kalmbach, De Marco law firm in Newport Beach, Calif., has handled Nixon's personal affairs since he moved into the White House. Kalmbach, for example, personally supervised the purchase and renovation of the San Clemente estate. The complicated financial details were worked out by De Marco, who also prepared the President's income tax returns.

Sources close to the President tell us that Kalmbach and De Marco never charged him for their services. They billed him only for out-of-pocket expenses, such as the tax accountant's charges, which the President has paid.

The two California attorneys were "proud," said our sources, to serve the President. The same sources denied rumors that the President, in return for free legal services, sent clients to the law firm. Neither Kalmbach nor De Marco could be reached for comment.

Footnote: President Nixon was able to purchase the \$1.4 million San Clemente estate with a down payment of less than \$100,000 of his own money. Most of the down payment came out of a \$625,000 loan from aerosol king Robert Abplanalp, who later tore up the note in return for title to the land around the presidential retreat.

The interest payments and real estate taxes on the President's California and Florida homes, plus a massive deduction for donating his vice presidential papers to the National Archives, has made it possible for him to avoid the high income taxes he otherwise would have been soaked. Because of his low tax, the Internal Revenue Service audited his returns for 1971 and 1972 but made no additional charges.

**Terror Training**—Sen. James Abourezk (D-S.D.) fears the Agency for International Development may be teaching terror techniques to Latin American and other foreign police for use against their citizens.

In a letter to AID Public Safety head Lauren Goin, Abourezk has discreetly asked whether "booby trap" construction and similar courses are taught to visiting police officials

by the U.S.-sponsored International Police Academy, as was suggested in the movie "State of Siege."

Abourezk's concern is not just based on movie tales. One of his aides has developed information from inside AID indicating that a terror school is run by AID at an isolated camp in Texas, and that both the CIA and U.S. Army may be involved. Abourezk has submitted bills to prohibit aid to foreign police and to block financial assistance to lands with political prisoners.

**Budget Battle**—Congress has largely abdicated its constitutional power over the purse. The committee system simply is inadequate to deal with the mammoth and complicated federal budget.

In order to restore its fiscal authority, Congress is now considering the creation of a joint committee on the budget. This would consolidate the money-authorizing functions into a more wieldy, more powerful unit.

The establishment of such a committee, however, would change many traditional power centers on Capitol Hill. This was reflected in a secret meet-

ing of the House Democratic Steering Committee, which considered the proposal. The Democratic leaders were unable to reach any agreement on the details of the new committee.

But agreement or no agreement, the House Rules Committee is going ahead with the idea.

**Be-Ware**—Rep. John Ware, (R-Pa.) makes no bones about his conflicts of interest. The energetic Ware is chairman of American Water Works and owns 975,000 shares in the company. He is president of Penn Fuel Gas and chairman of North Penn Gas. He also directs a foundation which owns almost a half million shares of the water works.

At the same time, he is a ranking member of the House Commerce Committee whose work touches every one of these enterprises. Ware, at least, is no hypocrite. His interests are laid out in company prospectuses and are even indicated in the Congressional Directory.

Ware told us he feels he can don the twin hats of legislator and legislated by not voting on bills directly affecting his companies.

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