

And Crown Thy Good

By Art Buchwald

Because of all the talk about impeachment and resignation, this country has suddenly taken a very careful look at the succession of the President of the United States.

According to the Constitution, as interpreted by the White House, only male heirs may succeed the President if for some reason he cannot carry out his duties. This eliminates Julie Eisenhower and Tricia Cox.

The nearest male heir to take over the presidency would be Mr. Nixon's brother, Donald, the Prince of Marriott as he is known at court. Donald is much more of a free spirit than his brother Richard.

Since he never thought he would ever assume the throne, Don has devoted himself more to the restaurant business, but people at the White House believe he would be a fair and honest ruler if duty called.

Next in line of succession would be Edward Nixon, the President's youngest brother, a dashing young aris-

ocrat known as the Duke of Seattle. Edward has served his brother on very important missions including picking up cash from the President's loyal subjects when no one else could be trusted with the job. Unlike his brothers, Edward has managed to stay out of the limelight and it is not certain if he would have the mass appeal of Donald who knows Howard Hughes personally.

After Edward comes President Nixon's nephew, Donald Jr., known as Bonnie Prince Don to distinguish him from his father. There has been some talk that Donald Sr. might step aside and persuade his brother Edward to give up rights to the throne, so his son, Bonnie Prince Don, could be crowned President.

Bonnie Prince Don, though still a young man, has had great experience in international relations working for

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Count Robert Vesco who was exiled to Costa Rica when he got into financial difficulties with the chancellor of the exchequer.

The one problem of Bonnie Prince Don's assuming the presidency is that he is too young to serve, and a regent would have to be appointed to run the affairs of the country.

The nobleman most talked about to serve as regent is Bebe Rebozo, who holds the title of the Duke of Bisayne.

The Duke is probably the closest intimate of the Nixon family and has served the President by administering the vast land holdings that the Nixons have accumulated in the last five years.

But after Bonnie Prince Don there are no more male heirs in line for the presidency.

Therefore someone would have to be found outside the Nixon family.

This might cause a great deal of consternation throughout the country, because it would be hard for anyone to agree on a President that did not come from the Nixon royal blood line of succession.

There is some talk of changing the Constitution so that Julie Eisenhower could inherit the role in case her father abdicates, but the male chauvinists in Parliament have said they would never allow it.

A compromise candidate if none of the Nixon heirs could serve is Paul Delisle the maitre d'hotel at the Sans Souci restaurant.

While he has no royal blood, he has served the aristocracy of Washington in and out of court for many years.

The country has never had a maitre d'hotel as President before, but the way things are going many people have indicated they would be willing to give it a try.