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## Nixon Claims Oil Data Privileged

Associated Press

The U.S. government yesterday withdrew all claims of privilege to White House documents sought by petroleum firms in a suit involving oil and gas leases in the Santa Barbara, Calif., Channel.

However, attorney Herbert J. Miller told the U.S. Court of Claims that his client, former President Nixon, is now claiming executive privilege over the four documents.

Miller said he could not obtain Mr. Nixon's signature in

advance on the claim because of the former President's illness. But he said he expected to get the signature in the next week or 10 days, depending on Mr. Nixon's health. Mr. Nixon has been hospitalized in California following surgery. Chief Judge Wilson Cowen gave Miller two weeks to secure Mr. Nixon's signature and awarded the oil companies, Sun Oil Co. and Superior Oil Co., another two weeks in which to file a response.