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**Nixon Affirms Candidacy;
 On New Hampshire Ballot**

I shall be a candidate for re-nomination and re-election, and therefore I shall leave my name on the ballot.

Sincerely,



Part of letter to Secretary of State of New Hampshire

Special to The New York Times

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif., Jan. 7—President Nixon formally announced today that he would run for a second term to "complete the work that we have begun."

Mr. Nixon's announcement was contained in a letter to Robert L. Stark, New Hampshire's Secretary of State. He notified Mr. Nixon by telegram earlier this week that petitions had been filed to place the President's name on the ballot for the March 7 New Hampshire primary.

In his brief reply, dated Jan. 5 and released here today, Mr. Nixon said: "I shall be a candidate for re-nomination and re-election, and therefore I shall

leave my name on the ballot." The President sent a separate letter disclosing his candidacy to Lane Dwinell, chairman of the New Hampshire Committee for the Re-Election of the President. In it, he set forth some of his thoughts and themes.

Recalling that it was in New Hampshire that he began his quest for the Presidency four years ago, and recalling the support New Hampshire citizens gave him, the President said:

"I have tried to be true to the trust they expressed, and to carry forward the effort we

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began in New Hampshire in 1968: To bring peace and progress both abroad and at home, and to give America the leadership it needs for a new era of national greatness.

"We have made a significant beginning in these past three years. I want to complete the work that we have begun and therefore I shall be a candidate for re-nomination and re-election. I deeply appreciate the confidence expressed by those who signed the petitions, and I shall do all in my power to be worthy of that confidence."

One effect of Mr. Nixon's open declaration of candidacy is to place him not only in the New Hampshire Republican primary but also in those state contests that automatically include a candidate's name on the ballot unless he openly disavows his candidacy. These include major primaries in Florida, in March 14, in Wisconsin, on April 4, and in Oregon, on May 23.

At Least 2 Challengers

Mr. Nixon will have at least two prominent opponents in the New Hampshire Republican primary—Representative Paul N. McCloskey Jr. of California, a liberal, and Representative John M. Ashbrook of Ohio, a conservative.

Although the President reserved his formal announcement until today, he authorized his aides months ago to begin building a campaign apparatus. Its centerpiece is the Committee for the Re-Election of the President, with headquarters in Washington. The committee, in turn, has established satellite groups in many states, including the committee in New Hampshire, headed by Mr. Dwinell, who is a former Governor of New Hampshire.

In a television interview on Sunday, Mr. Nixon virtually confirmed that John N. Mitchell would run his campaign, as he did in 1968, as soon as the question of Mr. Mitchell's successor as Attorney General is settled. There have been persistent rumors that Maurice H. L. Stans, the Secretary of Commerce, will manage the President's fund-raising effort this year, as he did in 1968.

Mr. Nixon asserted in his let-

ter to Mr. Dwinell that he would not campaign in any of the primaries, the first of which is in New Hampshire.

"I feel it essential," he wrote, "particularly in this year when events of such importance to the world's future are taking place, that at least until the Republican convention the President should refrain from public partisan activities in order to conduct the business of Government with the minimum intrusion of purely political activity."

By R. W. APPLE Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 — With the first primary in New Hampshire two months away, the Democratic Presidential contenders continued their propaganda war today. The main weapon: Endorsements.

In Washington, Kenneth P. O'Donnell, one of the key members of the "Irish Mafia" that served John F. Kennedy, announced at a news conference that he was supporting the unannounced Presidential bid of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, whom Mr. Kennedy defeated in the 1960 nomination contest.

Mr. O'Donnell, now a Boston public relations man, said he had come to respect Mr. Humphrey as "a powerful and intelligent public servant" and as "a man" during the nineteen-sixties.

Mr. O'Donnell said he had discussed his decision with Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, the late President's brother, and had been told that Senator Kennedy "is not a candidate." He predicted that Mr. Humphrey would quickly close the gap between himself and the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine.

But Mr. Humphrey will not run in Massachusetts, where Mr. Muskie is considered strong. Mr. O'Donnell's political influence there is considered minimal. He was decisively beaten for the Democratic nomination for Governor in 1966 and 1970.

In California, Mr. Humphrey won the backing of State Senator Mervin Dymally, one of the state's most prominent black politicians. He was the first black ever elected to the State Senate and currently heads the chamber's Democratic caucus.

"No leader of the Democratic party," said Mr. Dymally, "has been so long and so prominently identified with the cause of civil rights and the aspirations of black Americans."

In New Hampshire, Richard Stewart, Senator Muskie's press secretary, confirmed that Senator Adlai Z. Stevenson 3d of Illinois, son of the Democrats' 1952 and 1956 Presidential nominee, would endorse Mr. Muskie Monday in Springfield, Ill.

The Illinois primary, on March 21, will be the third in a series of 23, and the state will elect 170 delegates. Those from the Chicago area will probably go to the convention uncommitted, ready to do the bidding of Mayor Richard J. Daley, but the downstate bloc is up for grabs.

Mr. Muskie will face only former Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota in the preferential primary, which has no real significance. He is expected to win it easily.

Mr. Stevenson, the ranking statewide Democrat, should be able to help the Maine Senator in his contest for the downstate delegates with Senator George McGovern of South Dakota and possibly others.

Mayor Lindsay of New York announced no endorsements, but he sent to the Secretary of the Commonwealth in Pennsylvania a notice of intent to enter the primary there on April 25.

With Mr. Muskie, Mr. Humphrey and Mr. McGovern all planning to run in Pennsylvania — and with the strong possibility that an uncommitted slate will be entered in several areas as well — the state appears likely to be one of 1972's key battlegrounds.

Mr. Humphrey will formally announce his candidacy in Philadelphia on Monday.