

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1972

## Mrs. Nixon, Ending Visit, Sees Liberian Tribal Dance

MONROVIA, Liberia, Jan. 4 (AP)—Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, wearing native dress with a goffant head scarf, tapped her foot to tribal drums today as she watched dancing girls with painted bodies and bare breasts.

It was a sharp switch from the American-style festivities that have marked much of the celebration of the inauguration of President William R. Tolbert Jr., including the Rev. Billy Graham and the Grambling College Tiger Band from Louisiana.

Mrs. Nixon donned the African tribal attire during entertainment for the United States delegation by costumed native dancers, singers and drummers.

About 150 men, women and children from all the nation's tribes provided the show at the executive mansion on the final day of the American First Lady's three-day visit to the West African republic.

After the inauguration itself on Monday, there were three inaugural balls lasting until 4 A.M., and everyone was up again early this morning for a presidential military review.

The Grambling College musicians joined a variety of units, ranging from the Riot Squad to the National Guard and precision drill teams. Even floats from the inaugural parade were on review.

President Tolbert had escorted Mrs. Nixon home a little after midnight, then went on to two other dances.

He appeared with Mrs. Nixon for the 8:30 A.M. troop review in his dark blue and gold-braid uniform as Commander in Chief.

The American band members, sweltering in heavy uniforms in the scorching sun, paraded before the reviewing stand with the United States flag, and high-stepped a blaring send-off as President Tolbert and Mrs. Nixon were leaving.

Leaning from the President's Rolls-Royce, she told the band director, Conrad Hutchinson, of Bloomsburg, Pa., that his performance was "the greatest I've ever seen."

The black band, invited to the inauguration, has been performing in the streets and on parade for the last few days.

At Monday's inauguration ceremony, Mr. Tolbert honored Mrs. Nixon with the Grand Cordon of the Most Venerable Order of Knighthood of the Pioneers of the Republic of Liberia.

The new President called Mrs. Nixon a woman of "courage, strength of character and fortitude of spirit" who had excelled in everything she had undertaken.



Associated Press

AT LIBERIAN FESTIVITIES: Mrs. Richard M. Nixon put on tribal attire yesterday as inaugural fete for President William R. Tolbert continued. Details on Page 4.