

Denial That Wyeth Will Paint Nixon

Washington

The White House described as "pure fabrication" yesterday an announcement by artist Andrew Wyeth that he has been selected to paint the official portrait of President Nixon.

Wyeth said in an interview at Chadds Ford, Pa., where he resides, that first lady Patricia Nixon "personally asked me to paint her husband's portrait and I agreed."

Wyeth said that he was authorized by the White House historical association to make the announcement.

"Both the President and Mrs. Nixon respect him as a painter," said a spokesman, "but there's been no commitment on the part of the White House."

United Press
