SFChronicle Shelky Landing For Nixons

San Clemente

President Nixon made a shaky but safe landing in a helicopter at his home here late yesterday when the pilot thought the landing gear was unsafe.

The pilot, Army Lieutenant Colonel Gene Boyer of Akron, Ohio, said a red warning light flashed in the cockpit just as he was about to set down in the office compound so he pulled up about three feet.

A member of the ground crew fastened a pin in the landing gear to make sure it was safe, Boyer landed the craft and Mr. Nixon stepped out.

Boyer was asked what the President's reaction was to the hesitant landing and he said, "Well, he said it was different anyway."

Boyer indicated he was being supercautious and

said the landing gear was actually safe but the light flashed very briefly.

The President and his party first landed at El Toro Marine air station from Washington and boarded the helicopter for the 15-minute flight to San Clemente.

After the helicopter landed, the President alighted smiling with wife Pat and daughter Tricia and her husband, Edward Cox.

About 40 persons were in the compound and shouted "Welcome home." Mr. Nixon said, "How's the weather been?" and one man replied, "Outstanding."

Mr. Nixon then got behind the wheel of a golf cart with a surrey on top and with his wife by his side and the Coxs' sitting in back, waved to the crowd and drove the 500 yards to his home.

United Press