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irst Family Baring Foreign

By Maxine Cheshire

The Ford Administration is preparing to announce a new record-keeping system that would provide for full public disclosure of all gifts to the First Family from heads of state and other foreign officials. But it is still uncertain what policy the White House intends to adopt toward gifts that do not fall under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of 1966. These are private gifts from U.S. citizens and citizens of other countries who have no connection with foreign governments.

By far the largest number of gifts received by Presidents and their families in the past have come from these unofficial sources.

A White House spokesman confirmed that President Ford has given his "tentative approval" to a procedure that would open up the records of official foreign gifts to public scrutiny. He is planning to announce details later this week, the aide said, after "a few minor points are ironed out with the State Department."

In the meantime, the press office has released a list of "everything" President Ford and his family received from foreign "kings, princes and foreign states" during this first foreign states. during his first months in office. The list excludes

only those gifts received on his recent trip to Japan and Vladivostok which have not yet been cataloged.

Under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of

1966, all gifts from foreign officials worth more than \$50 are deemed to belong to the U.S. government and are supposed to be turned over "as quickly as possible" to the Chief of Protocol for disposition as public property.

During the Nixon Administration, all records of gifts from foreign officials and others were maintained in the White House Gifts Unit. The Chief of Protocol was given "access" to the records, but they were closed to reporters and anyone else seeking to examine them.

Under the new system proposed by President Ford's advisers, the White House Gifts Unit will continue to maintain original records for use by the correspondence section in writing ackowledgments and thank-you notes and for use by archivists in presidential libraries.

But duplicates, along with photographs, will be maintained in the Protocol Office and will be available for public scrutiny.

People

The Arts

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State Gifts to Public View

It is the Chief of Protocol who is charged, under the federal rules and regulations implementing the 1966 gift act, with keeping records of such gifts to either civilian or military personnel in all three branches of government.

He has done so in the past for everyone except for former President Richard M. Nixon and his family. Nixon's advisers, deciding in 1969 that the First Family was "probably exempt" from the law, decided to keep their records in the White House Gifts Unit. In order to be in compliance should Garage to the control of the complete to th order to be in compliance, should Congress ever raise the issue, the Nixon administration officials gave the Chief of Protocol "access." That "access" apparently

was never used, however.
The Nixons' records, and the gifts themselves, are currently in a legal limbo that may not be resolved for

months, or even years.

The Ford administration has impounded all records and gifts left behind in Washington when the Nixons left for San Clemente after his resignation. But many gifts and records are scattered elsewhere, including San Clemente.

Both the records and the gifts are caught up in the legal battle currently being argued in U.S. District Court here over Nixon's contention that all "presidential materials" generated during his presidency belong by tradition to him.

President Ford is making no such claim to his official foreign gifts.

A member of his legal staff, William E. Casselman II, said this week that President Ford intends to "tighten" the rules and regulations pertaining to First Families and "leave no loopholes."

"We want to assure that each gift is strictly accounted for," Casselman said, "and leave no opportunity in the future for such gifts being misused mis-

tunity in the future for such gifts being misused, misplaced, lost, strayed or stolen."

Both the quantity and the quality of gifts received

thus far by the Fords seem modest in comparison to the largesse bestowed on the Nixons by foreign leaders.

Of 74 gifts the Fords received prior to his recent travels, 24 were bouquets of flowers.

There are no valuable jewels on the list. The most expensive item of jewelry appears to be a handwrought gold scarab pendant, inset with an antique

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VIP, From B1

and presented to Mrs. Ford by Prime Minister Rabin. rose-cut diamond, made by a contemporary Israeli artis

tial library or some other "public repository." law and can only be displayed someday in a presidentoward such gifts, which can never be theirs under the The Fords appear to have taken a detached attitude

even want to see most of the gifts. First Lady Betty Ford has told her staff she doesn't

and send it to storage." very expensive Gucci handbag and luggage, she told her assistant, Nancy Howe, to "have someone stamp Property of the U.S. Government' all over the lining When Italian President Giovanni Leona brought her a

stamps. ture, a silver box, a silver tray, and several albums of The Fords' gifts include paintings, pieces of sculp-

skin parka President Ford received from a furrier in Anchorage, Alaska, as he passed through on his way to meet with Soviet party boss Leonid Brezhnev. Few are probably worth as much as the \$1,500 wolf-

Since the 1966 law does not apply to gifts from either

livered this week as a replacement from the same manufrom accepting another just like it which is being defacturer, The Anchorage Fur Factory. gave to Brezhnev. There was nothing to prohibit him was legally entitled to keep that parka, which he later U.S. citizens or private foreign citizens, President Ford

during their Christmas vacation. These, too, will be six pairs of \$78 wolf-trimmed, mouton-lined "mukluk" boots for the entire family to wear in the snow in Vail A spokesman there says that the firm is also making

and foreign-will continue to be kept only by the White House Gifts Unit. The records for private gifts of this kind-domestic

bated by top Ford aides. ble to reporters is a question apparently still being de-Whether or not these records are to be made accessi-

them secret," one press office spokesman insisted. "But you can be sure we don't intend to try and

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hite House List of Gifts to Fords

"kings, princes and foreign states" during his first months in office. All such gifts are by law the prop-erty of the U.S. government they are worth more than \$50. The following gifts appear to be in that category. The White House has hade public a list of all given to President and his family by

Japan which items, such as framed photographs. Also not listed are gifts from his recent trips to Not listed are less valuable "processed". and still being Vladivostok,

• A black lacquered spice chest in-laid with mother-of-pear! to the Presi-dent from Keung-Moon Koh, Member of the National Assembly of the Rep-ublic of Korea.
• A pair of carved ivory candle-sticks mounted on a natural wooden a base to the President from William R.

An oil painting of Father Kino (founder of missions in Sonora, Mexico and the United States) to the President rom Carlos Armando Biebrich, Gover-nor of Sonora, Mexico.

• An electric microscope to the President; a petil point embroiered evening bag to Mrs. Ford, a black wool short cape to Susan Ford from Dr. Bruno Kreisky. Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, and his wife.

• A carved mahogany baby seal to the President, and and a blue-and black carved box containing a pink, black and white mantilla and a small fan to Mrs. Ford from Luiz Echeverria Alvarez. President of the United States of Mexico, and his wife. Tolbert, President of the Republic of Liberia.

hand hammered silver decorated on top with a cut-out and applied silver Perish (with a cut-out and applied silver Perish (a said to the President); a 46" long neckhace of amber, cut and polished in regular natural forms to Mrs. Ford; a neutral color wool shawl printed with a floral design contained in a small wooden chest with folk art designs burned into the wood and outlined with hiald copper and brass wires and 2.5 meters of silk to Susan Ford from Edward Glerek. First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, and his wife.

 A Pakekh box to Mrs. Ford, and 10 bothles of vodka and 10 containers of Russian cavitar to the President from Andrei Andreyevich Gromyko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of So-viet Socialist Republics. A bronze wall plaque with silver and brass eiched designs to the Prest-dent from Abdul Halim Khaddam, Dep uty Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Re-nublic

Four silver coins struck to commemorate the 1976 Olympic Games to be held in Canada to the President from Marcel Cadieux, Ambassador of Canada traditionally a fabric woven for

Two tan lambskin lackets with white lambs wool lining seamed with rewhide strips—one each for the President and Mrs. Ford—from Alticla Tapla dent and Mrs. Ford—from Alticla Tapla de Pavlovitch, Mayor of Magdalena de Kino, Sonora, Mexico.

Mexico.

A silver tray with handles and fluted edges and a Mayan circle design in the center to the President from Mrs. Sara Rodriguez Ornelas, General Secretary, National Confederation of Vendors of National Confederation of National Confederation of National Confederation of National Con

A large size Kente and a pair of black thong sandals for the President,

and a Kente stole to Mrs. Ford from Col. Ignatius Kutu Achaempong, Chairman of the National Redemption Council of the Republic of Ghana.

a A sculptured sterling silver figure of David Slaving Goliath mounted upon a base of rough-cut black marble and syellow granite inset with two siver particles of the silver shaded a handwrought 18-karat gold silved scarab "beetle" pendant, inset with an antique rose-cut diamond, suspended from an 18-karat "gold wired pended from an 18-karat "gold wired pended from an 18-karat "gold wired pended from an 18-karat "gold wing to Mirs. Ford from Yitzhak. Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, and his wife.

Four cans of caviar flown, in from ran to Armassador of Iran.

An Estruscan Buchero' dating back to \$80/350 B.C. found in Vulci, lialy on Feb. 19, 1962 at an excavation and a set of six handmade pipes. and pipe rack from Cantu, Italy to the President; an ivory colored all leather handbag with brass fiftings and a tiger handbag with brass fiftings and a brown grain leather to bag by Fresident of the Italian Republic, and his wife.

A large abstract oil painting to the President from Professor Mauro Leone, son of President and Mrs.