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AMP-4

Korff resigns as head of the President Nixon Justice Fund - Announcement is made apparently on the occasion of another payment to Nixon's lawyers, since the total now is given as \$190,000; the previous total, 2 May, was \$165,000. The fund will continue to solicit public contributions until the balance still owed is paid. Reuters, in WXP, says the fund was "created to pay \$400,000."

Korff says he has informed Nixon of his decision to resign, effective with the election of a successor next month, and that Nixon concurred. Korff plans to visit Nixon (NYT:) "the week of June 10." This date falls in the week beginning 8 Jun.

Korff says he is resigning for personal reasons of family and health, and makes clear he is not resigning "from my friendship" with Nixon. Says he is also resigning as chaplain to the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, and from the United States Citizens' Congress, which the NYT describes as "a conservatively oriented group that grew out of his original National Citizens' Committee for Fairness to the Presidency."

- Nixon's plans (1976 elections). "Asked about Mr. Nixon's plans, Rabbi Korff said it was 'difficult to answer the question without betraying confidences, but let me respond by saying it is my feeling, and my feeling alone, that President Nixon will not participate in any manner' in the 1976 elections."

- Nixon's achievements. "[Korff said] that 'in time we will come to realize that President Nixon's contributions surpassed all the contributions of his immediate predecessors, and, whatever wrong was done, it was no more and certainly less than what his immediate predecessors [did].' He said he was referring to allegations that the Kennedy Administration was implicated in a plot to assassinate ... Castro."

- Nixon (Watergate). "[Korff] said that he believed history would 'vindicate' Mr. Nixon, but not specifically his conduct 'vis-a-vis Watergate,' unless evidence were turned up to show 'that it was a plot, sort of, to embarrass him.' He did not say specifically that he believed there

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was such evidence, but he did say: 'I think you are in for a few surprises when you read his memoirs. I have strong reasons for believing that many minds will be changed.'

NYT 29 May, Linda Charlton

See entry 6 Jun for another account.

WXP 29 May 75 [Reuters]

Nixon - For Korff's comment on the following, see entry, Korff resigns ... :

- continued payment of Nixon's legal bills
- 1976 elections (Nixon will not participate)
- Nixon's achievements
- Nixon (Watergate)
- Nixon's memoirs (many minds will be changed)

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Ⓐ - Korff, 25 Jun, says he will stay on for another two months.

- See entry 12 Sep 75, Korff.