

Nixon's Brother Retiring Early; Marriott Austerity Drive Cited

NYTimes

By JOHN M. CREWDSON MAR 23 1974

WASHINGTON, March 22— F. Donald Nixon, a brother of President Nixon, will retire next month as an executive of the Marriott Corporation, a company spokesman announced today.

Mr. Nixon has been employed as the organization's vice president for community and industry relations since 1970, when he was hired by J. Willard Marriott. Mr. Marriott, the company's chief executive, has been a close friend and political supporter of Mr. Nixon.

In a three-paragraph statement, the unnamed Marriott "spokesman" said that Mr. Marriott and Donald Nixon decided last January that his employment would be terminated on April 15, but that Mr. Nixon would remain as a corporate consultant until early next year.

The statement gave as the reasons for the termination Mr. Nixon's "ill health in recent months" and an austerity program forced on the Marriott organization "by the energy crisis."

"There will be no further comment from the company," the statement said.

F. Donald Nixon's business ventures have on occasion

touched his younger brother's political career. In 1960 it was disclosed that Donald had negotiated an almost entirely unsecured \$205,000 loan from the Howard Hughes organization in an attempt to rescue a failing fast-food business in the Los Angeles area.

More recently, there have been reports, confirmed by the White House, that the Secret Service had placed a tap on Donald Nixon's telephone. Unconfirmed reports indicated that agents had been assigned to follow him and report on his conferences with business associates.

The President said in November that he had approved the telephone tap for the purpose of monitoring "others who were trying to get him, perhaps, to use improper influence" with the Nixon Administration.

According to sources close to the Senate Watergate committee's investigation, the agents assigned to follow the President's brother reported to the White House on one occasion about a meeting of the brother with representatives of the Hughes organization, to which he had failed to repay the loan granted 14 years earlier.