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Firestone Farewell

FRIENDS OF the Leonard K. Firestones are hoping to see them before they leave for Europe around the first of May. Mr. Firestone was nominated Friday by President Nixon to be the new ambassador to Belgium as you probably noticed, and the Firestones left yesterday for Washington where he will attend briefings for a week or two.

Barbara Firestone, (the former Mrs. Stuart Heatley of San Francisco) is thrilled with her husband's appointment and looking forward to their tour of duty. The Firestones have many friends in the diplomatic corps, especially the Walter H. Annenbergs (he's ambassador to Great Britain), whom they have entertained at their home at Pebble Beach.

The Firestones will return to California to settle a few personal affairs before leaving for Belgium, but they'll have no problems closing their Los Angeles apartment.

"We'll simply lock the door," said Mr. Firestone.

They'll also keep a small apartment in San Francisco, primarily for the use of Mrs. Firestone's four daughters, three of whom live in the Bay Area.

Mr. Firestone, who is president of the Richard M. Nixon Foundation, is a director of Wells Fargo Bank and of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of California, from which he retired as president. He is also a member of the Pacific Union Club.

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