

# A Cut in Nixon Transition Fund

## Washington

A Senate Appropriations subcommittee voted yesterday to give Richard M. Nixon only \$328,000 of the \$850,000 asked to help the former President make the transition to private life.

The sum is <sup>24,857</sup> \$70,000 below the amount approved on Tuesday by the House Appropriations Committee.

In addition to slashing the total amount of money allowed Mr. Nixon, the Senate panel moved to block the federal government from paying the salaries of Mr. Nixon's maid, valet and other servants whose duties are not related directly to winding up the former President's affairs.

The \$328,000 total includes \$55,000 as the first installment of the \$60,000 annual pension provided all former Presidents, and \$40,000 to pay a full-time staff for the next five months.

The subcommittee eliminated completely the \$50,000 asked by the Ford administration to provide equipment for the former President's offices.

The \$35,000 asked to pay Mr. Nixon's communications was cut to \$21,000; the \$10,000 travel allowance was reduced to \$3000; the printing budget of \$10,000 was cut to \$3000, and a \$26,000 miscellaneous account was slashed to \$3000.

At a hearing Wednesday, subcommittee chairman Joseph M. Montoya (Dem-N.M.) and Senator Mark O. Hatfield (Rep-Ore.) expressed dismay that taxpayers are footing the bill for Mr. Nixon's maid, valet, gardeners and other household servants — all federal employees whose salaries are charged to various government agencies.

The Montoya subcommittee wrote into the appropriation bill a statement that any federal employee working for Mr. Nixon must be doing duties directly involved in the presidential transition.

Associated Press