

Friends of Haldeman Seek Funds From Wealthy P Persons and Politicians for his defense

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LOS ANGELES, Sept. 28— Friends and associates of H. R. Haldeman here have been quietly soliciting persons of means and some national political figures, most unknown personally to the former White House chief of staff, in an attempt to raise legal defense funds for Mr. Haldeman's forthcoming trial.

Mr. Haldeman is scheduled to go on trial Tuesday in Washington with five other defendants on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice in connection with the Watergate cover-up case. Mr. Haldeman is

in Washington preparing his defense.

The fund-raising campaign has been encumbered by Mr. Haldeman's reluctance to approach southern California friends and associates, the organizer of the fund, Z. Wayne Griffin, said this week. In consequence, local acquaintances have not been approached and no more than 5 per cent of the 1,280 persons solicited are from southern California.

Mr. Griffin, a film producer of the nineteen-forties and fifties, said the response had been "hopeful" since the drive began Aug. 8 although the influx "tapered abruptly" the week

President Ford pardoned former President Richard M. Nixon and "the amounts are not as effulgent as they might be." He refused to disclose who had been approached.

Living Quiet Life

Since moving back to Los Angeles 15 months ago, Mr. Haldeman has lived quietly with his wife and family in a comfortable tudor-styled house on a tree-shaded street in one of the most affluent neighborhoods of the city.

The activities of the former White House chief of staff, friends say, when not taken up with preparation for his up-

coming trial, have consisted of work on his book, lunch with associates, frequent rounds of tennis, attendance at football and basketball games at the University of California at Los Angeles and an occasional barbecue for family friends. Mr. Haldeman and wife Jo, who are Christian Scientists, regularly attend church in Los Angeles.

Mr. Haldeman had apparently been intending to offset some of his legal expenses with income from the book he is writing on his White House years. However, he has had difficulty finding a publisher who will meet his \$1-million asking price. It was learned that early last

month, Mr. Haldeman's Los Angeles literary agent, H. G. Saperstein, relinquished his assignment, saying "it would be difficult to get that kind of money for the book." Mr. Saperstein said that of 14 New York publishers approached, 13 had turned down the book because of the price.

In the months since the Haldemans returned to California they have rarely been seen in Los Angeles, although one son, Hank, who is 21 years old and a U.C.L.A. senior, has been active in a local political campaign. The Haldemans have not been seen at Los Angeles

restaurants and they have declined an invitation to join the Los Angeles tennis club. Mr. Haldeman, according to Mr. Griffin, said he would have time for that "later."

In a telephone interview last week Mrs. Haldeman said that she and her husband had stayed away from large social activities and public appearances because "it's an unusual time in our lives."

One family friend said that Mr. Haldeman frequently appeared at school functions with his two younger children, Ann, 14, and Peter, 17, who attend private school in Los Angeles.

Mr. Haldeman never engaged in extensive social activities in his Los Angeles years, but he was prominent locally as a member of the U.C.L.A. Board of Regents.

Friends and relatives say he is in good spirits and insists he is not bitter over his upcoming trial. Mrs. Haldeman said that "things are coming along fine" a view corroborated by Mr. Haldeman's younger sister Hortense Haldeman Raine, wife of a Los Angeles real estate man who said her brother was "in good spirits."