

NYTimes OCT 3 1974
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IN NIXON'S FUNDS**

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**\$850,00 for His Expenses in
Transition Period Slashed
to \$253,000 Maximum**

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 2—The House of Representatives moved tonight toward passage of legislation that would sharply reduce the amount of money sought by former President Richard M. Nixon to pay for his transition to private life.

Mr. Nixon asked for \$850,000 to cover his expenses through next June.

But the House voted this evening, 342 to 47, to cut that figure to no more than \$253,000, and amendments were pending that would reduce the amount still further.

Meanwhile, it was announced today that President Ford would testify Thursday, Oct. 10 at 10 A.M. before a House subcommittee about the circumstances surrounding his pardon of Mr. Nixon.

The televised hearing is expected to last several hours.

\$415,000 Spent Already

In another development, a Senate subcommittee disclosed today that the Government spent \$415,000 to support Mr. Nixon in the first six weeks he was out of office.

That amounts to more than \$9,800 a day for Mr. Nixon's staff salaries, protection and other expenses.

It was in part because the Government is already spending so heavily in Mr. Nixon's behalf that some Representatives argued against appropriating a large transition budget.

"What function does the ex-President who left under less than honorable conditions perform for the people of the United States?" asked Representative John E. Moss, a California Democrat.

And another California Democrat, Representative George E. Danielson, asked his colleagues, "What more does the man need? He's no longer President."

Republicans Backs Funds

But the Republicans in the

House tended to be more generous. Representative Howard W. Robison, a Republican from upstate New York, declared that there was "a valid national service to be performed by providing an adequate amount for transition purposes."

It is "necessary to preserve continuity between the old and new administrations," Mr. Robison asserted, adding, "Someone has to get to work on the great mass of the Nixon papers."

A senate subcommittee has voted to reduce Mr. Nixon's request to \$328,000.

The money would come under

Continued on Page 37, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 4

two separate laws—one designed to pay the immediate transition expenses for the first six months a former President was out of office, and the other intended to provide the former executive with a continuing pension, staff allowance and other expenses.

Only the \$60,000 annual pension is mandated by law.

The figure of \$415,000 spent by the Government to support the former President's activities from Aug. 9 to Sept. 20 was submitted to a Senate Appropriations subcommittee by the Office of Management and Budget and was released by the subcommittee's chairman, Senator Joseph M. Montoya, Democrat of New Mexico.

The sum includes \$65,000 in salary and expenses paid to men and women on the Government payroll and assigned to Mr. Nixon. It also includes \$251,000 for operating support at Mr. Nixon's home in San Clemente, Calif., and \$99,000 spent at his estate in Key Biscayne, Fla.

Among the costs to the Government were those for White House communications, air Force courier flights, protective services by the Secret Service and other agencies, the rental value of Federal facilities and work performed by the National Archives.

Government-Owned Equipment

In addition, the Government technically owns more than \$1-million worth of furniture and equipment that is still in place at San Clemente and Key Biscayne, according to the Office of Management and Budget.

There was evidence that the figure for salaries and expenses submitted by the budget office did not reflect all such costs to

the Government on Mr. Nixon's behalf.

For example, Ken W. Clawson, who was deputy chief of communications during the Nixon Administration, was in San Clemente for more than a week at Government expense, at his salary and expenses were not included in the \$65,000.

The White House said today that Mr. Clawson was technically on Mr. Ford's press staff but had no assignment and was working part-time for Mr. Nixon.

Voucher for Buchanan

Furthermore, Patrick J. Buchanan, who was a speech writer for Mr. Nixon, was in San Clemente over the Labor Day weekend. His expense voucher for \$120 was included in the figures supplied by the Office of Management and Budget, but his salary was not included, perhaps because the three days he was in San Clemente were over a weekend.

All told, employees assigned to Mr. Nixon applied for \$8,330.26 in living expenses at the Government rate of \$40 a day in addition to their salaries. Rold L. Ziegler, Mr. Nixon's former press secretary, whose annual salary is \$42,500, received \$480 in expenses between Aug. 9 and Sept. 14 and, presumably, is still receiving \$40 a day.

Senator Montoya's subcommittee has approved legislation that would limit the persons receiving Government salaries and expense payments to those working on the Presidential transition.