

## AIDE SAYS NIXON IS SHY OF FUNDS

Lack of Health Insurance  
Reported by Ziegler

Special to The New York Times

LONG BEACH, Calif., Oct. 27 —Former President Richard M. Nixon's press secretary said today that Mr. Nixon had insufficient funds to pay for "transition period" operations at San Clemente and had no health insurance for current medical expenses.

Ronald L. Ziegler said reports that Mr. Nixon's San Clemente staff was "excessive" were untrue, and that only about \$50,000 had been received to pay a staff of seven people.

"I don't know how they got the idea there are 64 people on the staff," Mr. Ziegler said. "We keep hearing these \$800,000 and \$250,000 figures but he is getting only one per cent of what was given to former Presidents in the past."

Mr. Ziegler volunteered the remarks to reporters after attending a news conference at Memorial Hospital called by Mr. Nixon's physician.

### Someone's Lapse

He also said that "someone at the White House neglected to take out health insurance" while Mr. Nixon was in office. He noted that in addition to medical expenses, Mr. Nixon must pay Watergate legal expenses and what he called "14 nuisance suits" filed against the former President.

According to Mr. Ziegler, "a President in office for five and half years is obligated to give something to the National Archives."

"You know, there was a lot more that happened in that Presidency than just Watergate."

He said Mr. Nixon needed money to pay a "limited staff" to help "catalog and review and contribute" material from the Nixon Administration to the Archives.

### Mail Unopened

Mr. Nixon said that the San Clemente staff had been so busy that "700,000 or 800,000 pieces of mail" received by Mr. Nixon remained unopened.

Before he was hospitalized for a second time, Mr. Nixon was "chair-ridden" and was following doctors' orders by walking about 400 yards each day, Mr. Ziegler said. He said the former President spent much of his time reading.