

Nixon Is Called Lonely, Troubled

San Clemente

Richard M. Nixon, six months from a shattered presidency and with transition funds cut off, was described yesterday by a confidante as a "lonely, troubled man."

Rabbi Baruch Korff, who heads a Nixon legal fund in Washington, visited with the former president at his Oceanside villa here for three days.

"President Nixon is a lonely, troubled man who faces staggering legal fees and hospital bills that he cannot afford," Korff said at news conference at the San Clemente Inn.

The legal fund has undertaken the responsibility of paying between \$400,000 and

\$500,000 in legal fees for Mr. Nixon.

Korff said he discussed Watergate with the former president and Mr. Nixon told him, "I should not have allowed a climate to reverberate that would ever lead to a Watergate."

Korff also quoted Mr. Nixon as saying, "it was wrong of me—and because of it I left office—I could not continue to subject this nation to a state of bedlam."

Korff referred to recent statements by others that Mr. Nixon is seeking a place in the Republican party, or a presidential appointment as ambassador to China.

"The president has no such aspirations," Korff said. "It will not be months, it will be years" before Mr. Nixon might seek an active participation in government.

Transition funds for Mr. Nixon ended at midnight Saturday, cutting back the staff and ending the communications equipment provided former presidents.

Mr. Nixon will keep only a staff of four — three secretaries and an office manager.

The only well-known hold-over is long time personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods. She earned \$42,000 a year during the presidential years and will take a pay cut to \$15,000.

Mr. Nixon held a party for the outgoing staff members Saturday night. *S FEB*

Korff said he didn't attend. "I could not face the extreme effort I knew he would undertake to hide his frustrations and appear gregarious because he didn't want his staff to take away an impression of hopelessness."

United Press



AP Wirephoto

NIXON SECRETARY ROSE MARY WOODS
She attended the staff party at San Clemente