

21 APR 78

WXPost APR 21 1975

Nixon Name Removed

From IRS Microfilm

PHILADELPHIA, April 20 (AP)—Internal Revenue Service officials acknowledge they removed Richard M. Nixon's name from a microfilm index of tax returns in late 1973 after reports that the former President had underpaid his taxes.

Francis I. Geibel, retired IRS chief of internal security, said he ordered Nixon's name expunged because of leaks to the

press in October, 1973, that Nixon paid less than \$1,000 in income taxes in 1970 and 1971.

"We were just trying to protect tax information," Geibel said. "Nothing sinister about it. At the time it was decided that we would take the information off the general microfilm tapes, which were available to thousands of IRS people."

The bulletin reported today that one retired IRS man said the removal was part of a cover-up.

Geibel, who retired from the IRS in December, said the only intent was "to keep any one of 50,000 IRS employees who weren't authorized to get those returns from getting them."