

IRS action to plug leaks on Nixon told

the microfilm," he said.

Geibel said expunging of the data came after leaks to the press in October 1973

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

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A former Internal Revenue Service official confirmed last night that the IRS removed information on Richard Nixon's tax returns from microfilm indexes in late 1973, following newspaper reports that the former president had underpaid his taxes.

While Nixon was presi-

dent, he filed his tax returns as a resident of Washington, D.C. According to Geibel, the material removed was certain "key information."

Francis Geibel, then IRS chief of internal security said to help prevent further press leaks, "at that time it was decided that we would take the information off the general microfilm tapes, which were available to thousands of IRS people."

The Philadelphia Bulletin in today's editions quoted another former IRS employe as saying he believed the action was taken because top IRS officials wanted to cover up for Nixon.

However, Geibel denied there was any cover-up. He said the removal of information from the microfilm did not affect the status of Nixon's actual income tax returns.

"We just put the information under a little better security than it had been on