FEXaminer APR 1 8 1973 ACIX AD



A NEW ACT AT THE WHITE HOUSE—NIXON AND SINATRA The President helps singer adjust mike for his performance

-AP Photo

Nixon 'Honored' by Sinatra

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Singer Frank Sinatra came out of retirement last night to entertain at the White House and left his audience cheering and shouting bravo.

Nixon, who stood up to lead the enthusiastic response himself, said that while many talented persons had entertained at the White House, "once in a while there is magic in a room and a great performer is able to capture the room — Frank Sinatra has done that and we thank him."

Sinatra performed at a black-tie dinner and evening of entertainment in honor of Prime Minister and Mrs. Giulio Andreotti of Italy. Among other guests were Vice President Spiro Agnew, a close friend of Sinatra; former Ambassador to Italy Clare Boothe Luce, and national security affairs adviser Henry A. Kissinger.

But aside from Kissinger and a few Cabinet members, no members of Nixon's White House staff were present — a departure from past practice.

Press coverage was extensive for the dinner with some 20 reporters requesting credentials. But absent was Washington Post columnist Maxine Cheshire, who was on the receiving end of obscenities shouted at her by Sinatra during a confrontation at an inaugural gathering last January.

Nixon seemed to go out of his way to assure Sinatra he was welcome at the White House, at one point saying "this house is honored to have you here."

A mong Sinatra's selections were "What Is America To Me," "I've Got You Under My Skin" and "I've Got the World on a String."