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The Nixon Papers As a Tax Deduction

To the Editor:
Your Sept. 14 editorial on "The Need for Tax Reform" is a clarion call on an important subject. But to suggest that President Nixon's 1969 transfer of pre-Presidential papers to the National Archives could have resulted in a legitimate tax deduction is to overlook an important issue. It is highly unlikely that the transfer It is highly unlikely that the transfer constituted a valid charitable contribution that entitled him to a tax deduction of \$570,000 spread over several years. The question is now under study by the tax bar and the Internal Revenue Service. It seems advisable to await their verdicts before conceding to Mr. Nixon's "papers deduction" a legitimacy that it rather clearly lacks.

THOMAS F. FIELD ly lacks.

THOMAS F. FIELD
Executive Director
Tax Analysts and Advocates Washington, Sept. 18, 1973