

# Foreign Gift Turn-Ins: Who Got

By Maxine Cheshire

Two gifts of unset diamonds from the Central African Republic to David Newsom, former assistant secretary of state for African affairs, and one of his top aides are among 60 items turned over to the GSA by the State Department for disposition as "excess personal property."

Newsom, now United States Ambassador to Indonesia, got five diamonds of graduated size. His assistant, Thomas J. Burke, received three.

Records show that the stones were turned in promptly in June, 1973, by the recipients. The State Department does not identify the gems as to size or value.

The diamonds have already been turned over to the GSA. A spokesman there has declined to allow pictures to be taken of the stones or have them examined because "they are all wrapped up" and packed in boxes.

Former Secretary of Commerce Peter G. Peterson turned over an antique silver urn from Poland after having it appraised at Galt's and discovering that it was worth \$3,500.

Republican National Committee chairman George Bush and his wife turned in a man's yellow gold watch and a strand of pearls given to them by the government of Bahrain while Bush was ambassador to

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the United Nations.

Oklahoma Sen. and Mrs. Dewey F. Bartlett both turned over watches given to them by King Faisal in January, 1974, during a visit to Saudi Arabia.

Except for Sen. J. William Fulbright, Sen. Bartlett is the only member of the Senate who is recorded as ever turning over such gifts from foreign states to the Chief of Protocol's office as required under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of 1966.

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The General Services Administration's procedure with such gifts, after they have been transferred to its custody by the State Department, is to first canvass museums to determine if they want the items for display.

The Bartletts' watches are being sent to the Oklahoma Historical Society in Oklahoma City. The U.S.

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## What From Whom?

Army Center of Military History has asked for a saber and two scimitars given by Abu Dhabi to Sen. Fulbright and a diamond-studded dagger and scabbard given by Saudi Arabia to former Secretary of State William P. Rogers.

Many of the names on the GSA list are military officers. Major Gen. John R. D. Cleland and his wife turned over a silver box and an emerald bracelet given to them by the Khmer Republic.

Maj. Gen. H. A. Twitchell, chief of the U.S. military mission to Iran from 1968 to 1971, turned in 21 gifts promptly which he received from that country. These include silver, jewelry, Persian carpets and Persian miniature paintings.

Former Secretary of the Navy John W. Warner, who is now the administrator of the Bicentennial Commission, has four items on the list, including a Persian rug and a silver tray from Brazil.

At least one of his gifts has already been sold.

A set of amber jewelry was auctioned off by the GSA in April at a sale of surplus foreign gifts in San Francisco. The jewelry, not identified at the time as having been given to Warner, brought \$150.

If no museum asks for the remainder of the items on the latest GSA list, they, too, will be offered at auction.

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