



AP Wirephoto

Former President Nixon and Athalie Clark at the Republican gathering

GOP Fund-Raiser

Pep Talk by Nixon

Corona del Mar

Former President Richard Nixon, in what is believed to be his first political speech since his resignation in 1974, has told about 50 wealthy Republican contributors and their wives that a candidate's "fighting spirit" is more important than money.

The off-the-cuff "pep talk" Wednesday night at a fund-raiser lasted only ten minutes, according to guests who attended the \$500-a-couple buffet. They said the speech concerned only the Republican party and made no mention of national or international issues.

Nixon also emphasized the need for Orange county Republicans to find young, attractive candidates.

Ernie Winter, chairman of the Republican Finance Committee of Orange County, said Nixon stressed that "Financial support is not as important as a fighting spirit and enthusiasm."

The dinner was held at the oceanfront home of Athalie Clark. Guests said Nixon paid his own way and that Mrs. Nixon did not attend.

Associated Press