

# White House POW Party

## Washington

President and Mrs. Nixon have mailed invitations to 587 prisoners of war and their wives to attend a White House party on May 24.

There have been reports that a number of senior POWs have told the Pentagon they would decline the President's invitation if any prisoners who cooperated with the enemy are present.

The reports said that they want invitations sent to prisoners who may have consorted with the Communists withdrawn.

But Helen McCain Smith, the first lady's press secretary, said that invitations were dropped in the mail Friday to all POWs who

were released by Hanoi and the Viet Cong. She said there has been no screening.

The White House party for the POWs will be an all-day affair. Mr. Nixon will brief the prisoners at the State Department and Mrs. Nixon will entertain the wives at tea.

In the evening, guests will be allowed to roam through the three floors of the White House in the family quarters during the cocktail hour.

The outdoor dinner on the south lawn will be black tie. Officers may wear uniforms.

Comedian Bob Hope, who entertained U.S. troops in Vietnam for ten Christmas seasons, will be the master of ceremonies.

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