

# Mrs. Stans' Stay At Army Hospital



Jack Anderson

PRESIDENT NIXON personally arranged for hospitalization and treatment of Mrs. Maurice Stans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center more than a year after her husband resigned as Secretary of Commerce.

She has been hospitalized at the famed center on three occasions since Stans left the government to become the President's chief political fund-raiser. She stayed on even after Stans was indicted on May 10.

She was put up in a luxurious wing of Walter Reed where the very important patients stay. For silver dinner service and all the accouterments of the finest hotels, plus her medical tests and drugs, she was charged only \$61 a day.

Although high officials and their families are eligible for such service, it's highly unusual for the wife of a former cabinet member to be treated at Walter Reed.

She stayed at the hospital the last four months of 1972, then came back for another 19 days in January 1973. She returned again from May 8 to 22. Her visitors have included the First Lady and, on Thanksgiving, she received a telephone call from President Nixon.

Footnote: A hospital spokesman said the hospitalization was "a continuation" of treatment that Mrs. Stans received while her husband was still a cabinet member. Added Stans' personal secretary, Arden Chambers: "When Mr. Stans left office, one of the understandings was that Mrs. Stans would be permitted the courtesies of Walter Reed."

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PRESIDENT NIXON has promised his new advisers that he'll change his habits and make himself more accessible.

Previously, he had remained in such splendid isolation that even Vice President Spiro Agnew had been unable to break through the palace guard with advice on Watergate.

The Vice President had tried to reach Mr. Nixon with urgent Watergate advice from several Republican Senators. But Agnew had to report back last March that he couldn't get past H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, who were then the guardians of the presidential sanctum.

Their replacements, Melvin Laird and Bryce Harlow, still haven't been taken into the President's deep confidence.

The President has pledged, however, a new open-door policy. He is taking phone calls, for example, from important Senators who used to be unable to get through to him.

Those who have spoken to him about Watergate tell us he is both hurt and annoyed by the Senate revelations. They insist, however, that the President shows no sign of desperation. He doesn't intend to resign nor does he expect to be impeached.

He swears to his friends that he had no part in the Watergate break-in nor the illegal coverup. "I'm not stupid," one visitor quoted him as saying. "If I had known about the skulduggery, I'd have fired those people." He claims he was deceived by people he trusted.

Editor's Note: ITT informs us that the Scott Lawn Products Co. was NOT a subsidiary of ITT at the time it supplied free seed, fertilizer and gardening work for President Nixon's Western White House golf course. SEE SFC, 2 JUL 73

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