

# Two Senators Put Taxes on Record

## Washington

Two members of the Senate Watergate committee put their federal tax returns on the record yesterday after the White House was reported preparing to suggest that President Nixon's critics disclose their own personal finances.

Committee Chairman Sam J. Ervin Jr. (Dem-N.C.) called the suggestion "not even a red herring (but) a putrified minnow" aimed at tarnishing his panel's investigation. He said returns from his entire tax-paying

life, stretching over 49 years, are available for inspection by qualified White House officials at his home in Morgantown, N.C.

Ervin and Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr. (Rep-Conn.) put their entire 1972 income tax returns in the Congressional Record. Both were mentioned by the White House sources who said Mr. Nixon's congressional critics might soon be challenged to make disclosures.

Weicker charged earlier this week that Mr. Nixon failed to meet the legal requirements for taking a

\$576,000 income tax deduction on his prepresidential papers.

"My tax returns have always been available to anyone who asked for them," Weicker said in response to a query. He proceeded to lay them out on his desk in the Old Senate Office Building and give an almost line-by-line briefing on returns for the last four years, the period covered by Mr. Nixon's disclosure last week.

The returns show Weicker paid \$37,415.29 in federal income taxes on an adjusted gross income of \$223,364.63 during the four-year period from 1969 to 1972.

By comparison, Mr. Nixon paid \$78,651.10 on an adjusted gross income of \$1,122,266.37 from 1969-72. By taking a substantial tax break on the documents, the President's federal income tax for the last three years was less than \$6000.

Ervin's 1972 return shows he paid \$15,483.55 in federal income taxes on an adjusted gross income of \$63,440.50. His extremely detailed report of expenses and deductions cites the particular section of federal tax law that applies to each situation.

Connecticut has no state income tax but levied a 6 per cent tax on net capital gains and dividends two years ago. The state returns show Weicker paid \$2994.62 on net capital gains and dividends of \$49,916.95 during 1971 and 1972.

Weicker's salary, as a senator since 1971 and as a congressman for the two years prior to that, was \$42,500 a year. Most of his other income derives from trust funds set up by his grandfather's will in the 1930s and

by his father in the 1940s.

The senator's grandfather founded Squibb & Co.

He and his wife, who file joint returns, also have owned stock in 20 to 25 corporations since 1969, but they have produced only about \$2000 a year in dividends, compared to nearly \$10,000 from the family trust funds.

"My biggest holding is in Friendly Ice Cream," Weicker said. He also said he once held stock in a Greenwich, Conn., bank and disposed of it when he joined the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee.

The deductions the President took have stirred controversy. The largest single deduction on Weicker's returns was about \$5000 annual interest payments on the mortgage on his home in Greenwich.

Associated Press