

Nixon 'Moved' by Tax Bill Donations

Key Biscayne, Fla.

President Nixon is "heartened and moved" by gifts of \$43,657 from more than 5000 Americans, who want to help him pay his income tax bill of nearly a half million dollars, the White House said yesterday.

The Florida White House announced an "outpouring of public support" relating to the President's personal income tax problems, but said Mr. Nixon will pay his own taxes and send back the gift money.

President Nixon, who is here on an extended Easter holiday weekend stay, has been granted a 60-day extension to file his 1973 returns.

He got the extra time because of problems resulting from a decision by the Internal Revenue Service and the congressional Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation that he owes some \$475,000 in income taxes and interest for the year 1969-1972.

In its tally made through last Saturday, the White House said Mr. Nixon has received 5536 letters and telegrams with \$43,657.13 in contributions.

The gifts ranged from six cents taped to a letter from a second grade school boy to \$5000 from an unidentified businessman. The average donation was listed as about \$10.

There were 1296 anonymous letters with contributions, mostly in small amounts that the White House said totaled \$2581.

Mr. Nixon has asked that money from anonymous do-

notors, which cannot be returned, be given to the American Red Cross to aid victims of the recent tornado disasters in 10 midwestern and southern states.

Of all the tax mail and messages, the White House said, there were only 113 "letters of criticism" — a ratio of 50 to 1 to bolster the President over his tax troubles.

Mr. Nixon has said he will pay the tax bill himself, however, and he may have

to borrow money to do it.

Mr. Nixon is expected to return to Washington today. He plans to address the Daughters of the American Revolution in Constitution Hall Thursday morning.

^{16 APR}
A spokesman said the President will give a black-tie dinner at the White House tomorrow night for ministers of the Organization of American States but does not plan to attend the OAS meeting in Atlanta on Thursday. ^{(17 APR}

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