

NIXON REPORTED TO PAY BACK TAX

Unnamed Aide Says 'Most of \$467,000 Bill Is Satisfied'

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WASHINGTON, April 30 (UPI)—President Nixon has paid most of his nearly half-million-dollar debt in back income taxes, an Administration official said today.

But neither the Internal Revenue Service itself nor the President's official spokesman, Gerald L. Warren, would confirm the statement or even say whether Mr. Nixon had paid his first installment.

"We don't intend to discuss that," said Mr. Warren, deputy press secretary. "We've already said that the President intends to pay his taxes."

"This is still a tax case," an I.R.S. official said. "When and if he chooses to pay up is a matter between the White House and the I.R.S."

The Administration official, who declined to be identified, said Mr. Nixon had paid his first installment and it included "most of" the entire \$467,000 bill in back taxes and interest for the years 1969-72. He gave no indication of where the President had gotten the money to pay the taxes.

Most of the delinquent taxes were owned as a result of a ruling by the revenue service that disallowed Mr. Nixon's deduction of \$576,000 for donation of his Vice-Presidential papers to the National Archives.

Mr. Warren previously indicated that it would take all of Mr. Nixon's cash assets and more to pay the bill. He said that Mr. Nixon would have to borrow money to meet the debt, but there have been no indications that the President had secured a loan.

Mr. Nixon is said to have returned hundreds of thousands of dollars in contributions. Mr. Warren said that Mr. Nixon wanted to "pay every penny" himself.

The White House maintains that the tax problems were the result of honest mistakes in preparation of Mr. Nixon's tax returns, which have been prepared during Mr. Nixon's

White House years by Frank DeMarco, a partner of Mr. Nixon's personal lawyer, Herbert W. Kalmbach, and an accountant, Arthur Blech, both of the Los Angeles area.

Neither the revenue service nor a joint Congressional committee that investigated Mr. Nixon's tax returns reported any evidence of civil fraud. But Mr. Blech has said he had been told that his records had been turned over to the Justice Department for investigation of fraud.