

NYTimes  
**Nixon Is Said to Be Open**  
**To \$2-Million for Memoirs**

By ERIC PACE

Roger W. Straus Jr., the book publisher, said yesterday that his company, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, had been told by a "reliable intermediary" this month that former President Richard M. Nixon "would entertain an offer of \$2-million" for the rights to publish his memoirs.

Nixon associates have made no comment this week about Mr. Nixon's literary plans, but a former assistant to him said that he understood Mr. Nixon was planning to do a great deal of writing.

And Scott Meredith, the New York literary agent, said that a Nixon aide had telephoned him after Mr. Nixon's resignation to ask whether the former President's memoirs could indeed bring \$2-million as Mr. Meredith had previously estimated.

"I said without a doubt," Mr. Meredith reported. But Mr. Straus said, "I think \$2-million is more than the property is worth." He said that his com-

pany declined the offer, because "We don't have that kind of money."

Mr. Straus said the intermediary, whom he declined to name, had telephoned from Washington and had said Mr. Nixon would entertain the offer of the money "spread over a 10-year period at \$200,000 a year."

Mr. Straus said he assumed that the \$2-million was to be for a "package" deal, that is, one that would include paperback and other subsidiary publishing rights to Mr. Nixon's life story.

Several publishers said privately yesterday that Doubleday & Co. and the Reader's Digest seemed to have a particular interest in publishing Mr. Nixon's memoirs. Hobart Lewis, the Reader's Digest's president, could not be reached for comment. An aide to Samuel S. Vaughan, the publisher of Doubleday, repeated an earlier statement that "there is no contract and no commnt."