

Ford Asks \$850,000 For Nixon

Washington

President Ford asked Congress yesterday to appropriate \$850,000 for former President Nixon to cover the presidential transition, his pension and other expenses between now and next June 30.

Public expenditures in support of Mr. Nixon would be substantially higher than this \$850,000, however, administration officials said.

The office complex maintained by Mr. Nixon at the Coast Guard station outside the gates of his estate in San Clemente, will be paid for by the public for the foreseeable future, although some of the facilities may not be necessary, according to Arthur F. Sampson, head of the General Services Administration.

Sampson also pointed out in an interview that Mr. Nixon is entitled to the services of as many federal employees as he asks for to assist him during a six-month transition period.

The Secret Service will continue to guard the former President. None of these expenses were included in the \$850,000 requested by Mr. Ford yesterday.

Of the \$850,000 total,

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\$450,000 is for expenses related to the transition period, which lasts six months starting with the day of Mr. Nixon's resignation on August 9.

This allocation is fixed by law in the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, that provides \$900,000 for the transition between administrations, half of it to go to the incoming and half to the outgoing President.

Mr. Ford will not receive the incoming President's allocation because he moved

directly into the presidency without a post-election interval, according to White House spokesman.

One staff official in the White House press office said that the \$450,000 is being provided Mr. Nixon to help him make "an orderly transition" and will cover such things as office and communication equipment and salaries for personnel not detailed from the government.

The remaining \$400,000 will be provided to Mr. Nixon under the Former President's Act of 1958.

Sampson said that the \$400,000 breaks down roughly this way: \$96,000 to pay his staff, \$60,000 for Mr. Nixon's pension, \$40,000 for travel, \$5000 for office supplies, \$65,000 for furnishings, \$21,000 for communications, \$10,000 for printing and \$100,000 for miscellaneous expenses.

Sampson said Mr. Nixon would be within the law if he used some of \$96,000 for staff to pay his lawyers but

he may not pay additional legal fees out of the \$100,000 miscellaneous fund.

As a practical matter, he said, there would not be much in the \$96,000 for paying lawyers because his personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, receives \$50,000 and he employs three secretaries to help with the mail.

The GSA must approve expenditures from the \$100,000 miscellaneous account as provided by law, he said.

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