

SFChronicle NOV 26 1974

Rabbi's Group Is Paying Nixon Bills

Washington

An organization formed by Baruch Korff, the Massachusetts rabbi who tried last summer to rally the nation behind the presidency of Richard Nixon, has paid \$60,000 in legal fees for the former chief executive.

The organization, the President Nixon Justice Fund, eventually intends to pay Mr. Nixon's medical bills as well, according to Korff. The legal fees and medical expenses may total \$500,000, Korff says, with about 80 per cent of that figure going for legal expenses.

Korff said the legal bills are being submitted directly to the fund by Herbert J. Miller Jr., Mr. Nixon's lawyer. "I have an understanding with Mr. Nixon," Korff

said in a recent interview. "I get the bills and I pay them."

As of November 1, Korff said, the fund still owed Mr. Nixon's lawyers \$120,000 and had no more than about \$5000 in the bank by the middle of the month.

Korff displayed photocopies of checks sent to Miller's law firm, Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin, and copies of two bills the law firm had submitted. The first check, for \$30,000, was dated October 4, and a second check, also for \$30,000, was dated November 13.

Korff maintained that his organization is thriving as much as it had been when Mr. Nixon was an embattled president and Rabbi Korff his indefatigable and self-appointed defender. In con-

trast to last summer when the telephone was always ringing and Korff was granting interviews like a rock star newly arrived in town, the phone rang just once during a recent 1½-hour interview and he was not interrupted by visitors.

Korff hinted that he had become disenchanted with Mr. Nixon's conservative supporters, saying, "Conservatives have earned a reputation for not retrieving their wounded from the battlefield. This is a severe defect which accounts for their miniature influence."

Korff said he is continuing his activities at his own peril. He said he is in poor health and had been delaying "going into the hospital for a month now."

Washington Post