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Nixon Spared U.S. Bill for Flight Home

White House officials said yesterday that former President Nixon will not be charged for any portion of his flight home to San Clemente, Calif., the day he gave up the presidency.

And the government has "done everything" it could to see that his personal belongings were made available for transfer to his San Clemente estate, a White House spokesman said.

In an interview published Sunday, Nixon's chief aide, former White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, said federal officials were being "vindictive" toward Nixon by withholding his personal belongings and by reportedly preparing to bill him for part of his flight home.

A United Press International report of Friday quoted a White House spokesman as saying Nixon would be charged \$8,440 for half the journey aboard the presidential jetliner, Air Force One, because he was no longer President after passing "a point near Jefferson City, Mo." at the moment Gerald R. Ford took over.

Officials denied yesterday that there was any plan to charge Nixon and said President Ford has instead directed the Defense Department, which operates the aircraft, to pick up all the costs of the flight.

Probably UPI - see SFC and NYT 14 Jan 75.