

# A Nixon Helper Is Guilty

Chicago

Ralph G. Newman, nationally known Lincoln scholar and literary appraiser, was found guilty yesterday of lying to help former President Nixon get a \$450,000 tax break.

A federal court jury convicted Newman, 64, of backdating Mr. Nixon's gift of pre-presidential papers to the National Archives so Mr. Nixon could qualify for a tax deduction.

Newman's lawyers said he made a human mistake but the government contended he "intentionally and deliberately" lied to federal agents "to please the President of the United States."

Newman, the president of the Chicago Library Board, faces a possible five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on one count in the indictment and three years in prison and a \$5000 fine on the other.

He is accused of submitting a false timetable on the submission of the Nixon papers and of preparing a false affidavit attesting to the timetable.

The date on which the papers were submitted was important because Congress had passed a



RALPH AND PATRICIA NEWMAN LEFT COURT  
He was convicted of lying for the President

law prohibiting tax breaks on such donations after July 25, 1969. Newman said the papers were given before the cutoff date, while in fact they were not donated until afterward.

The affidavit attesting the papers got in before the cutoff date was attached to Mr. Nixon's 1969 income tax return. Mr. Nixon

got a deduction, but the Internal Revenue Service later declared it invalid.

Newman had been hired to appraise the papers because of his wide reputation as a literary appraiser and historical scholar. He had also appraised the papers of the late President Lyndon Johnson.

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