
MAR 26 1976

Report Of Nixon Drinking

SFChronicle
New York

A new book depicts Richard Nixon as drinking heavily in his last days in the White House, talking often of suicide and at one point talking to portraits of other presidents, according to portions of the book published in Time magazine and the New York Daily News.

Time said in its current edition that Mr. Nixon began drinking for hours at a time as impeachment appeared imminent in July, 1974, sometimes by himself and sometimes in the company of press secretary Ron Ziegler.

The Daily News, in a story by columnist Liz Smith, said Mr. Nixon was observed by his son-in-law, David Eisenhower talking to portraits of his predecessors while he was intoxicated.

The News also said Mr. Nixon talked so much of suicide during his last days in the White House that aides took all pills and medication from his medicine chest.

The stories were said to have come from an unreleased new book entitled "The Final Days" by Robert Woodward and Carl Bernstein, Washington Post writer. Their reporting won a Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of the Watergate scandal. They also wrote "All The President's Men," based on their Watergate reportage.

Associated Press
