

Nixon Steps Out of Politics in California; Implications of Move to New York Studied

United Press International
Richard M. Nixon, who almost became president of the United States in 1960 and later was defeated for governor of California, stepped out of California politics, possibly for good.

Nixon, in a terse announcement in New York, said he was moving from Los Angeles to New York to accept a position with a legal firm.

The political significance of the move was still being studied, but it appeared at least on the surface a step away from public life for the former Vice President under President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Yielding the Leadership
One thing appeared certain: Nixon was yielding the leadership of the California delegation to the 1964 Republican national convention which will answer one of the most intriguing questions in politics: Who will be the 1964 GOP presidential nominee?

Despite his telling defeat by Gov. Edmund G. Brown last year, Nixon had not been left out as a possible "Kingmaker" as leader of the huge California delegation.

But California Republicans, and others, were not leaving out the possibility that Nixon will participate in national politics, not as a candidate, but from behind the scenes.

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

Executions: U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas granted a stay of execution only a few hours before three convicted murderers were to die in the San Quentin gas chamber. A fourth condemned man, scheduled to die in the first quadruple execution in the prison's history, was granted a limited commutation of his death sentence to life imprisonment without possibility of parole.

Brown said "further psychiatric study" was needed in the case of Charles J. Golston, 22, convicted of the rape-slaying of a 79-year-old Los Angeles woman. Justice Douglas said the stays of execution for Joseph Rosoto, 39, John F. Vlahovich, 31, and Donald G. Franklin, 34, condemned for the gang-slaying of an Anaheim tavern owner, would be in effect until the high court decided two other cases it had under submission.

Extremists: Senate Republican whip Thomas H. Kuchel teed-off in a Senate speech on "fright peddlers" of the John Birch Society and similar groups he said were defiling the philosophy of conservatism. He urged that "cruelly swindled Americans" be persuaded to "rejoin the ranks again of sensible and decent anti-communist, pro Americans. He said 10 per cent of the 60,000 letters he receives each month "fall into the category of fright mail."

Trieste: Rough seas off the Massachusetts coast continued

to hamper the search for the nuclear submarine Thresher, including a planned 600 foot test dive of the bathyscap Trieste which was transported to the east coast from San

Diego to help solve the sub's mysterious disappearance. The Thresher, with 129 men aboard, sank April 10, leaving only an oil slick and bits of flotsam as vague clues to what

caused one of the Navy's worst peacetime disasters. The Navy said the test dive of the Trieste, which is built to withstand pressure at the 8,400-foot level of the Atlantic, would be rescheduled as soon as possible.

Kroeger: A Superior Court judge in San Francisco exercised a seldom-used power and reversed a jury's death verdict to life imprisonment

for convicted slayer Ralph Kroeger. At the same time, he sentenced Kroeger's wife, Iva (Grandma) Kroeger to the gas chamber for her part in the slaying of a Santa Rosa couple whose bodies were found buried in the basement of the Kroeger home.

The killings were attributed to a plot to take possession of the motel owned by the victims. Judge Harry Neubarth

said after reading sentence that Kroeger was "one more of his wife's victims," calling her a "troublemaker all her life" who would kill again. She was the first woman ever sentenced to death in a San Francisco courtroom.

Marine: Former Marine Capt. Arthur Jackson of San Jose was on his vacation. But the vacation wasn't being spent as originally planned—

at a White House ceremony for the nation's Congressional Medal of Honor winners whose ranks Jackson joined in the Pacific Theatre in World War II.

Jackson, who left the Marine Corps only recently, became the center of a stir caused by a report he was discharged for allegedly killing and burying a Cuban spy

found on the Guantanamo Naval Base. Jackson has refused to comment. Where he was spending a vacation from his job as a San Jose postman, was unknown, but the phone of his home had been disconnected before he left.

Flight: A 36-year-old Santa Monica housewife took 17 hours and 3 minutes to complete the first leg of a flight which she hopes will make

her the first woman to fly the Pacific alone. Mrs. Betty Miller touched down at Honolulu on a flight from Oakland. The end of the line will be Brisbane, Australia.

The 2,000 mile flight was the longest portion of her 7,000 mile trip, which is approximately the reverse of the course on which famed aviator Amelia Earhart disappeared in 1937.

SECTION D PAGES 1 to 8
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