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President Nixon confers with Attorney General John N. Mitchell, left, and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover at the White House.

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# Nixon, Hoover Discuss Police Deaths

By Carroll Kilpatrick  
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon summoned Attorney General John N. Mitchell and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to his office yesterday to discuss ways in which the federal government can help prevent the slaying of policemen.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said after the unexpected meeting that the President feels the recent slayings in New York and Washington were "tragic" and "reprehensible."

Mr. Nixon will write letters of sympathy to the families of two New York policemen who were shot in the backs last

week and of two Washington policemen who died following gunshot wounds suffered in the line of duty, Ziegler said.

The New York policemen killed last week were Waverly M. Jones and Joseph A. Pignatini. They were shot after having responded to a call for help in a Harlem apartment.

In Washington, William L. Sigmon was killed Tuesday when he attempted to apprehend two robbers of the National Permanent Federal Savings and Loan Assn. office on MacArthur Boulevard NW.

Another policeman, Jerard F. Young, was buried yesterday. He was shot in the head while attempting to make an arrest April 21.

Last November, the President directed the Justice Department "to make available all appropriate investigative resources" to local and state police "when requested in any case involving an assault upon a police officer."

The President said at the time that he had discussed his directive with Hoover and D.C. Police Chief Jerry V. Wilson.

The President "primarily wanted to discuss the scope of the problem and to see what assistance is being provided," Ziegler said yesterday of the late afternoon meeting.

The FBI's main help is in providing laboratory tests and

assisting in out-of-state leads on those involved in attacks on police, Ziegler reported.

"The President asked me to express his hope that these tragedies will remind people of the debt we owe policemen for many services, of the protection they so selflessly provide and of the respect and support we owe them for what they do," the press secretary said.

Also attending the meeting in the President's office were John D. Ehrlichman, assistant to the President for domestic affairs, and Egil Krogh, deputy assistant.

Zeigler said that narcotics control also was discussed at the meeting.