



United Press International

President Nixon talks to antiwar demonstrators Barbara Hirsh (left) of Cleveland, Ohio, and Lauree Moss of Detroit.

President Pays Visit to Protesters

PRESIDENT, From A1

After relating the conversation, he shrugged and said, "I doubt if that got over."

According to the President, he also talked about pollution, race relations and various parts of the world he has seen and would recommend, including Japan, Mexico City, India, Iran, Bali, Budapest, Prague and Siberia.

"There were no TV cameras, no press. They (the students) did not feel the awesome power of the White House. I was trying to relate to them in a way they could feel that I understood their problems," he said.

If the comments of some of the students to newsmen later are any guide, Mr. Nixon failed to bridge the communications gap.

"It was unreal. He was trying so hard to relate on a personal basis, but he wasn't really concerned with why we were here," said Ronnie Kemper, a Syracuse University sophomore.

"I hope it was because he was tired, but most of what he was saying was absurd," said Joan Pelletier, also of Syracuse University. "Here we had come from a university that's completely uptight, on strike, and when we told him where we were from, he talked about the football team. And when someone said he was from California, he talked about surfing."

About his news conference Friday night, Mr. Nixon had stayed up until about 2:30 a.m., reading and talking on the telephone. His family remained at Camp David, Md., where they had gone to be with the President in the hours before the news conference.

The President slept only an hour. About 3:45 a.m. he telephoned Helen Thomas, a United Press International reporter covering the White House, to chat about the late Merriman Smith. Mr. Nixon had ended the Friday night news conference with a tribute to Smith, who covered the

White House for UPI for many years.

About 4 a.m., the President awakened his valet, Manolo Sanchez. The two men picked up a hasty Secret Service escort—the agents were "petrified," according to Mr. Nixon—and the group left the White House in darkness at 4:55 a.m.

About eight students here to demonstrate were napping at the Lincoln Memorial when the President arrived. As he talked, the crowd grew steadily to about 50 students. More Secret Service agents, roused from sleep, joined the original three.

After speaking to the students for 55 minutes, the President, accompanied by his valet and a few White House aides who had joined the group, drove to the Capitol. They walked through the nearly deserted building, with Mr. Nixon pointing out the sights.

Just before 7 a.m., Mr. Nixon and his party drove to the Mayflower Hotel,

where the President had corned beef hash topped with an egg in the Rib Room.

Mr. Nixon returned to the White House, which was cordoned off by buses parked bumper-to-bumper, and heavily guarded by police, at 7:37 a.m. He spent the rest of the day in one of his offices or at the Executive Residence.

He did stop to chat with Army troops who were stationed as extra security in the area, but otherwise saw no other outsiders during the day, according to aides.

A total of 60 to 80 demonstrators, some dressed in sneakers, dungarees, T-shirts and beads, were invited into the White House for chats by various Presidential aides. Seven students who were invited by Donald Rumsfeld, who is director of the poverty program as well as a presidential assistant also had talks with Henry A. Kissinger and Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker while in the White House.

*Chamberlain
guest*