

White House Reaction

Nixon 'Ignoring' Demo Incident

Key Biscayne, Fla.

The Florida White House said yesterday that President Nixon is taking no interest in the attempt to bug Democratic National Committee headquarters and is ignoring the incident.

"This is something that he wouldn't get involved in," said White House Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler, adding that Mr. Nixon has not discussed it with anyone, including former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, chairman of the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

At a briefing for newsmen, Ziegler at first repeated his earlier statements that the White House had no comment on the early Saturday morning Washington incident in which five men, including a salaried Nixon campaign security expert, were arrested. He referred all queries to the Re-election Committee.

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Then, when pressed, Ziegler said: "I'm not going to comment from the White House on a third-rate burglary attempt . . . I don't comment on things taken be-

fore the lower district courts."

"Obviously, we don't condone second-rate activities," he said. "This is something that should not fall into the political process."

"I'm sure certain elements are trying to stretch this into something more than it is," he said.

Ziegler said the White House has not received any reports from the Justice Department on its investigation of the incident.

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The President spent most of the day at his Key Biscayne residence which received the first sunshine since Mr. Nixon's arrival from Washington Friday afternoon. Mr. Nixon went for an afternoon cruise aboard the Coco Lobo III with his close friend, C. G. (Bebe) Rebozo.

Ziegler said Mr. Nixon talked Sunday night by phone with Henry Kissinger, his national security adviser, in Honolulu. Kissinger is now in China. He also talked with former Treasury Secretary John Connally, now in Australia while on a month-long world trip on behalf of the President.

Associated Press