

# Connally Expected To Resign Next Month From Nixon Post

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WASHINGTON (AP) — A frustrated John B. Connally, apparently cut off from ready access to President Nixon, plans to resign soon from his White House post, Texas political sources here reported Thursday.

Since joining the Nixon staff May 10 as unpaid, part-time adviser, Connally has had only two private meetings with the President and, the sources said, their once-close relationship has become somewhat strained.

Connally is said to have com-

plained to friends that the White House staff operation, in the wake of Watergate-related resignations, was a "screwed-up mess" and that he could not function effectively.

One source, personally close to the former secretary of the Treasury, said Connally was likely to quit the White House by mid-July.

It had been understood at the outset that Connally intended to serve as a Nixon adviser for 60 to 90 days.

The White House said Thurs-

day Connally hopes soon to embark on a 60-day trip around the world with his wife.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren, saying Nixon values Connally's advice, insisted the two men have "a very close relationship."

On Tuesday morning, it was learned, Connally phoned friends in Texas to express satisfaction with the way Nixon's temporary new economic policy, announced Wednesday night, was shaping up. The former Democratic governor of Texas, who became a Republican last month, was said to have indicated there would be no export controls on farm products—an important consideration with wheat and cotton interests in his native state.

After attending a policy planning session with Nixon Tuesday afternoon, Connally emerged looking preoccupied and rather grim. Shortly thereafter he boarded a plane for Texas.

Nixon is now asking Congress for flexible authority to impose export controls on, among other items, wheat, cottonseed and cottonseed products.

The fact that the President and Connally have not renewed their strong personal relationship of 1971-72 apparently stems in part from circumstances that surrounded Connally's return to the administration.

With the Watergate scandal becoming an increasing personal burden, Nixon summoned Connally to his Key Biscayne, Fla., home early last month and offered him a high-profile, permanent position. Connally refused and, some sources said, may have angered the President, who needed to recruit high-powered talent as he rebuilt his shaken administration.