

Ford's List For 2d Spot Is Expanded

By Tim O'Brien
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President Ford intensified his search for a Vice President yesterday, calling in a procession of Republican congressional and party leaders to get reactions to a list of possible nominees.

The list, which included a stable of party stalwarts, reportedly was expanded to include Democrats and women.

Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) and House Minority Whip Leslie C. Arends (R-Ill.), both of whom met with the President, said the names of women and Democrats came up in their discussions. Neither would identify the possible nominees.

Scott, who earlier in the day mentioned presidential counselor Anne Armstrong as one potential nominee, said the list included women both "in and out of Congress."

Rep. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.) emerged from his meeting with Mr. Ford telling reporters that the President has compiled a list of about 15 vice presidential prospects. Conable said the list may not have been complete, but that it included most of those who have been mentioned frequently in the media. Among those on the list, he said, are former New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass.), former Attorney General Elliott L. Richardson, and former presidential adviser Melvin R. Laird.

Conable said the President wanted to discuss the candidates privately with each visitor. "He didn't want us exerting pressure on each other," Conable said. "He talked about virtually everybody you've seen mentioned."

The President held 11 sep-

erate meetings in the Oval Office with GOP congressional and party leaders. Among the visitors, in addition to Scott, Conable and Arends, were Sens. Barry Goldwater (Ariz.) and Robert Griffin (Mich.), Rep. Elford A. Cederberg (Mich.), Sen. John Tower (Tex.), presidential adviser Bryce N. Harlow and GOP party chairman George Bush.

Goldwater told the Associated Press that he would accept the nation's second highest office if it were offered, but he said he was not seeking it.

The Arizonan, a presidential candidate in 1964, said he planned to recommend Bush for the vice presidential slot.

"If he wants a Democrat," Goldwater said, "it's fine with me."

A White House spokeswoman would not comment on the reported list of names under consideration. She said the President is receiving suggestions in sealed envelopes.

The President is expected

See **PRESIDENT, A4, Col. 1**

PRESIDENT, From A1

to forward his nomination to the Congress "late in the week," according to White House press secretary Gerald F. Horst.

In addition to narrowing down the list of vice presidential candidates, Mr. Ford spent part of his Sunday preparing for a major address to be delivered tonight before a joint session of Congress. The speech will be nationally televised starting at 9 p.m.

A White House spokesman said the President will call for renewed cooperation between the executive and legislative branches, will appeal for national unity, and will emphasize the continuing stability of the nation's government.

The President yesterday signed into law the first bill of his new administration — a measure authorizing the Coast Guard to adopt modernized boiler and pressure safety standards aboard ships.

He started his day by attending church services at the nearby Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill in Alexandria, where the Ford family still lives.

Sitting in a back pew, Mr. and Mrs. Ford and daughter, Susan, heard the church rector, the Rev. William Dols, say it is time "to pick up the pieces again."

"The question is what we do with the pieces. Our choice is to remain in the grave to gloat and glower and grimace . . . or to awaken to a new day filled with other possibilities, to join together and turn to an agenda of hard needs in our land that have been waiting these many months to be ad-

dressed and met," Mr. Dols said.

At the White House, Mr. Ford started his business day with a half-hour meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.



By Frank Johnston—The Washington Post
Ford leaves Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill in Alexandria. At left is the Rev. Patricia Park, assistant to rector, William Dols, right.