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KENNETH COLE
He said he's 'exhausted'

Ford's Chief Domestic Aide Resigns

Washington

Kenneth R. Cole Jr., a Nixon holdover who says he is "exhausted," submitted his resignation as President Ford's chief domestic adviser yesterday.

Cole, 36, will be leaving as executive director of the Domestic Council in March after assisting in the preparation of the next State of the Union address and Mr. Ford's legislative program.

In an exchange of letters with Cole, Mr. Ford said that he was accepting the resignation with "deepest regret."

"Needless to say, you will be greatly missed here at the White House where you have served so admirably for the past six years," the President wrote.

He noted that since the earliest days of the Nixon administration Cole had "played a leading and vital role in shaping the direction of national domestic policy."

In a telephone interview, Cole, a former advertising executive, said he had not yet made a decision on his future plans. "I'm exhausted," he said. "I've been trying to leave since 1972 but was persuaded to stay on."

United Press