

[Nixon] Plans
Cabinet Shakeup

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**Some Big
Changes in
The Works**

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Washington

President Nixon plans a major shakeup in the Cabinet and in the White House staff in his second administration and will shortly have resignations on his desk from all presidential appointees.

White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler made these announcements yesterday in his first statement after the President's massive electoral victory Tuesday.

The President met for more than a half hour with major staff aides and then met for more than an hour with the cabinet to discuss the election and his intentions for his second term, Ziegler reported.

FLORIDA

Later, Mr. Nixon left for five or six days in Key Biscayne, Fla., to do "intensive planning regarding the second term" and to plan the "restructuring and reorganization" of the White House staff, Ziegler said.

Ziegler replied "none whatsoever" when asked if the staff reorganization had anything to do with campaign charges of sabotage and spying by presidential aides.

But he said in the statement he volunteered that "I think you can anticipate significant reorganization of the White House staff and other parts of the government."

CHANGES

Asked if there would be "wholesale" changes in the White House, he said he was "not suggesting anything like that."

When another reporter asked if there would be a major shakeup in the staff, he replied: "The answer to that is probably yes." He said some staff members

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would want to stay and some would want to leave.

He declined to discuss any specific changes the President has in mind, declaring that no decisions have yet been made.

The first cabinet officer to leave is expected to be George Romney, who announced before the election that he was on the verge of resigning as secretary of housing and urban development.

LAIRD

Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird has long said he intends to leave at the end of the present term.

Speculation also has centered on Secretary of Labor James D. Hodgson and Attorney General Richard D. Kleindienst, but there has been no confirmation.

Ziegler said in his original announcement that it is "traditional" for presidential appointees to submit resignations at the end of a term so the President can be free to reorganize the government as he chooses.

What has not been traditional is for a White House press secretary to announce publicly that the President expects such resignations and thus publicly to remind appointees to write the traditional letters.

EXPANSION

The White House staff has expanded greatly under both Presidents Johnson and Nixon and some staff members now exercise more power than cabinet officers.

From the beginning of the Nixon administration, cabinet officers have complained that they are isolated from

the President and must nearly always work through White House staff men rather than directly with the President.

Walter J. Hickel resigned as secretary of the interior with a blast at the wall between him and the President.

Much of the ire has been directed at R. H. (Bob) Haldeman, the White House chief of staff, and John D. Ehrlichman, head of the Domestic Council. Both men have worked for Mr. Nixon since the 1950s and have sometimes been referred to as the Berlin Wall.

POPULARITY

Their popularity with Mr. Nixon, however, is undiminished as far as outsiders can determine. Ehrlichman has been rumored in line for a cabinet post although many think he has more power in his present position than any cabinet member.

During the campaign, Washington Post reporters David S. Broder and Haynes Johnson found that Republican campaign directors in a number of states believed Mr. Nixon should "clean house" in his second administration.

The complaints were directed both at those allegedly connected with the Watergate and corruption issues and those, like Haldeman, who held them at arm's length from the President.

SURPRISE

The biggest surprise of all would be a Haldeman departure, but some persons were not even sure that he would survive the drastic changes the President appears to have in mind.

When the President left for Florida, he was accompanied by Haldeman, Ehrlichman and national security adviser Henry A. Kissinger. Kissinger is believed almost certain to retain his post.

There have been repeated rumors that Secretary of State William P. Rogers may resign, but he has not given support to the rumors.

He is one of Mr. Nixon's oldest friends.

Persons frequently mentioned for high posts include Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York, former Secretary of the Treasury John B. Connally, former Navy Secretary John Chafee, defeated in his campaign for the Senate in Rhode Island, and former Postmaster General Winton Blount, defeated in his late bid in Alabama.