

## Nixons' Ride In Hydrofoil

Washington

First Lady Pat Nixon disclosed yesterday that the Nixon family made a secret trip in Florida's Biscayne Bay last weekend to try out the hydrofoil boat that was a gift to the President from Soviet party chief Leonid Brezhnev.

She said it was an exciting ride in the 28-foot boat that skims over the water with a speed of some 30 knots, about 34 miles an hour.

"Great fun," Mrs. Nixon said of the ride. A Secret Service agent trained with the help of Russian technicians navigated the boat.

President Nixon, their daughters Julie and Tricia, son-in-law Edward Cox and family friend C. G. (Bebe) Rebozo were aboard.

It was "a very short voyage" of about 15 or 20 minutes, according to deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren, who was questioned about it after Mrs. Nixon talked to reporters during a picture-taking session at the White House with a Christmas Seal design winner.

The Russians delivered the boat by ship at Baltimore on August 3 and it was trucked to the Washington Navy Yard, where the Secret Service agent learned how to operate it.

The gift hydrofoil was flown to Florida aboard a military C-147 cargo plane about a week or ten days ago, Warren said.

Warren said he did not know the President's reaction to the hydrofoil test ride. He also said that it has not been decided how long the hydrofoil will stay in Florida waters near the Nixon residence at Key Biscayne or what further use will be made of the Russians' gift.

*Associated Press*