

SF Examiner

Sparse Crowd Greets Nixon

On Arrival at Florida Airfield

By Sydney M. Kossen
Examiner Washington Bureau

KEY BISCAZYNE — The gloom of Watergate seemed to follow President Nixon to Florida.

The President is at his Key Biscayne home today for what is supposed to be a quiet weekend of rest and renewal following the ordeal of recent disclosures linking more political scandal to his administration.

Only a small quiet crowd greeted him at Homestead Air Force Base yesterday afternoon, as the first family alighted from the presidential jet, Spirit of '76.

Surprise

Veteran observers were surprised at the meager size of the turnout, for it is easy to turn out platoons of government employes, military personnel and dependents at a defense establishment, as demonstrated in the past by Nixon and President Johnson.

Outwardly calm, the President waved to the sparse crowd. Behind him came Mrs. Nixon and daughter, Julie Eisenhower, who had canceled midwest travel plans to be with her troubled father, at least during picture taking sessions here.

This contrasted with last weekend when Nixon alone went to his Maryland mountain retreat at Camp David.

Others accompanying the President included Rose

Mary Woods, his longtime private secretary; staff man Steve Bull, and Paul Keyes, former producer of TV's "Laugh-In" and gag writer for next week's \$1000 a plate Republican fund-raiser in Washington.

Discussions

Press secretary Ronald Ziegler confirmed that the President has been discussing the ongoing operations of the White House.

This heightened speculation that Nixon had decided to name someone to replace domestic advisers H. R. "Bob" Haldeman and John Ehrlichman.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman resigned Monday and, as the President flew south yesterday, they were busy testifying before a federal grand jury in Washington.

A 'First'

Both former top aides are accused of political espionage. Never before have men so close to a President been grilled by a criminal grand jury.

Kenneth L. Cole has replaced Ehrlichman as director of the President's Domestic Council.

"You can look for Cole to take on broader responsibilities," a source said. "He's working on domestic legislation. Henry Kissinger is still on the job in foreign affairs and things are moving along."



WARM GREETING AT KEY BISCAZYNE
Bebe Rebozo was on hand to welcome President Nixon
—AP Photo