

Nixon Plans Watergate Initiative

By JOHN HERBERS

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 6—The White House said today that President Nixon, far from yielding to demands that he resign, was planning a broad new initiative to restore his credibility in the Watergate case.

Gerald L. Warren, the deputy press secretary, said the President had a "complete and full understanding" of the credibility problem he was facing on Watergate matters and "intends to meet this matter head on."

"He will deal with it in a forthright way," Mr. Warren said, "and see that it is cleared up."

At another point in the daily news briefing, Mr. Warren said that Mr. Nixon would "speak out on these matters."

He would not comment, however, on any of a number of proposals that Mr. Nixon and his advisers were said to be considering as an effort to overcome the adverse reaction to his handling of the Watergate tape recordings and other matters.

As part of the effort to show that the President is still in command of his job, Mr. Nixon is expected to go on national television and radio sometime tomorrow to discuss the energy crisis. Mr. Nixon discussed the essence of his message this afternoon during a Cabinet meeting that lasted almost two hours.

The President's Watergate problems, Mr. Warren said later were not mentioned.

Mr. Nixon will meet tomorrow morning first with Democratic and Republican leaders and then with a group of Governors and Mayors on his energy address.

Disclosure that the President

was planning an offensive in the Watergate case came after the President's spokesmen made new and stronger denials that he might be considering resigning.

On the President's plane last night en way to Washington from Key Biscayne, Fla., where Mr. Nixon spent a long weekend, Ronald L. Ziegler, the Presidential assistant who has been with Mr. Nixon almost constantly was asked about the President's attitude.

"The President intends to see this thing out," Mr. Ziegler said. "The President is not a quitter and never has been in his entire political career. He has been devoting his energies not only to this Watergate foolishness—"

"Foolishness, Ron?" a reporter asked.

"Foolishness and tragedy," he said. "He knows his energies have been devoted to building foreign policy in which we move from confrontation to negotiation and carry through with what he stands for domestically."

'3 Years of Accomplishment'

"He is not going to walk away from the problem," Mr. Ziegler said. "He feels as a nation we will have three years of calm from the turmoil, and accomplishment."

Asked for reaction to the calls that have come from columnists and newspapers who formerly supported Mr. Nixon, Mr. Ziegler said, "over the years friends and adversaries alike have disagreed with his policies."

This morning, The Washington Post said that according to some White House officials, the President was considering making public a summary of the tapes that he had agreed to turn over to Judge John J. Sirica. The judge is to inspect

them privately as possible evidence for the grand jury considering the Watergate tapes.

The President's advisers, however, were reported to be concerned about the legality of the move, because the tapes are now under the court's jurisdiction.

Neither Mr. Warren nor a number of other White House officials would cohere report. Late this afternoon, Leonard Garment, the White House counsel, and J. Fred Buzhardt Jr., special counsel to the President, met privately for about one hour with Judge Sirica.

Afterward, Judge Sirica was asked if the President's lawyers proposed making portions of the tapes public.

"It wasn't even discussed," he replied. Asked if making the tapes public would be appropriate, he declined to comment.

The implications of the White House talk today was that Mr. Nixon was thinking of making some conciliatory move that would meet at least some demands from Congress and Republican leaders that he release documents and other Watergate material. There also have been demands that he meet with members of Congress in some fashion to answer questions about his role in the matters.

While his spokesmen would not comment about renewed requests that he meet with the Senate Watergate committee, they would not deny that the President might do so. In the past, suggestions that the President appear before a Congressional committee were rejected out of hand by his spokesmen, who said that such an appearance would violate the constitutional provision for separation of powers.