

NYTimes. DEC. 15 1973
**Nixon Lights Christmas Tree,
Its Electricity Slashed by 80%**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — President Nixon, assisted by a Campfire Girl and a Boy Scout, pressed the button today to light the national Christmas tree.

The tree was lighted with a single large star at its top and eight flood lights at its base. This contrasted with past years when the tree carried thousands of lights.

The National Park Service said that the revised lighting required 80 per cent less energy than last year's.

The entire Pageant of Peace, with 57 trees representing the 50 states, six territories and the District of Columbia, uses almost 90 per cent less energy

than it did in 1972, according to the Park Service.

Before the lighting, the President said that Christmas is "not measured by the number of lights on a tree."

"The spirit of Christmas is measured by the love that each of us has in his heart," he said.

The ceremony was held one block from the White House.

Mr. Nixon arrived and left in a five-car entourage. He said that Americans could be thankful that the energy crisis "is a problem of peace and not a problem of war."

"This year, every American perhaps will sacrifice a little," he said, "but no one will suffer."