SFChronicle JAN 2 8 1974 Nixon Polishes Up Talk to Congress

Camp David, Md.

President Nixon was joined at his mountain retreat yesterday by two top aides as he worked on the fine points of his State of the Union address to be delivered to Congress Wednesday night

White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig and Mr. Nixon's chief speechwriter, Ray Price, were said to have arrived at Camp David yesterday afternoon to help with the address. They were the only aides known to have

made the 70 - mile journey from Washington since the President left the White House last Thursday.

Mr. Nixon returned alone to the White House last night, an aide said.

Mr. Nixon's aides maintained they did not know whether the Preaident would renew his defense against Watergate and administration scandals or would devote his speech to the pressing issues of the oil shortage, inflation and the Middle East.

United Press