

Ziegler Assails Ford's Remarks on Cabinet Plans

KEY BISCAIYNE, Fla., April 14 (UPI) — Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, sharply criticized today as "inappropriate" remarks by Vice President Ford on his plans should President Nixon resign or be compelled to leave office.

Mr. Ziegler said President Nixon "is going to be here until 1977."

Mr. Ziegler made the comment to a television interviewer as he left the Key Biscayne Community Church, where Mr. Nixon and his family attended Easter services.

It was the first public comment by a White House official on an interview that Mr. Ford

gave to John Osborne of The New Republic magazine.

In the interview, the Vice President discussed a possible Cabinet should he assume the Presidency before Mr. Nixon's second term ends. Mr. Ford said Mr. Ziegler definitely would not be asked to remain as press secretary.

In the interview, the Vice President repeated that he did not believe there would be a mid-term succession to the Presidency and said he "does not want it to happen."

But, in discussing his vision of a Ford Cabinet, the Vice President made it clear that

Secretary of State Kissinger would stay on and Defense Secretary James Schlesinger would be dropped.

The article has been widely quoted and Mr. Ford has been questioned further on his current speaking tour.

His press secretary, Paul Miltich, said the Vice President emphasized to reporters that he did not expect to be President, but was willing to answer speculative questions on what he would do as President because of the inherent responsibility of any Vice President to be prepared for the White House.