

Nixon Flies to Abplanalp's Cay

By Stuart Auerbach

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KEY BISCAYNE, FLA., May 17—Vacationing from the rigors of Watergate and impeachment proceedings against him, President Nixon flew off this afternoon to the Bahamian island owned by his industrialist friend, Robert H. Abplanalp.

Mr. Nixon took his Key Biscayne neighbor and friend, C. G. (Debe) Rebozo with him for the overnight stay on Grand Cay, a small island in the Bahamas about 145 miles and an 80-minute helicopter ride from here.

The President's trip came as a surprise. His press secretary, Ronald L. Ziegler, said Thursday he doubted that the President would fly to Grand Cay this weekend.

Ziegler told reporters Thursday that the President wants to spend his time here this weekend relaxing and hoped to get some sunshine.

According to White House spokesmen, however, the President spent this morning—a beautiful sunshiny one—in his study here reviewing cables from Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger about his Middle East Trip.

Mr. Nixon also conferred this morning with Ziegler and Alexander M. Haig Jr., his chief of staff, and then left at 3:05 this afternoon for Grand Cay.

This is the first time President Nixon has gone to Grand Cay since last May 26, when a White House helicopter crashed there killing one Secret Service agent.

At Grand Cay, Mr. Nixon will be with two of his closest friends—Rebozo and Abplanalp. The two helped finance Mr. Nixon's vacation homes here and in San Clemente, Calif.

Rebozo is being investigated by the Senate Watergate committee for his handling of campaign contributions to the President—especially a \$100,000 contribution from Howard Hughes. Rebozo said he kept the money in a safe deposit box of his Key Biscayne bank and returned it untouched about a year later.

Earlier today, the White House announced that the

President will meet in Washington Tuesday noon with Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ohira. The foreign minister is visiting the United States to receive an honorary degree Saturday from Yale University and to address the Japan Society in New York Tuesday night.

A spokesman at the Japanese embassy in Washington said the Ohira visit with the President was initiated by the White House.

The White House announcement came as the Kyodo News

Service reported from Tokyo that because of the impeachment proceedings in Washington, planning for an exchange of visits between President Nixon and Emperor Hirohito has been suspended.

White House deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said, however, that Mr. Nixon still hopes to visit Japan this year and that he would welcome the emperor "if he wishes to visit."

The Florida White House also announced three appointments to the Federal Commu-

nications Commission. If the President's nominees are approved by the Senate, the seven-member FCC will be at full strength for the first time in nine months.

The President renamed Robert E. Lee for another seven-year term on the commission. He also named Abbott Washburn to fill the one year left in the term of H. Rex Lee, who has resigned, and Glen O. Robinson to fill the two years left in the term of Dean Burch, who is now counselor to the President.