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By David S. Broder Washington Post Staff Wricer

President Ford put off the choice of a Vice President until next week and plunged yesterday into the task of recruiting and organizing a White House staff.

Mr. Ford asked all members of former President Nixon's senior staff, including chief of staff Alexander M. Haig Jr., to remain in their jobs for now, but he also clearly signaled that he

intends a major changeover as time moves along.

In his first major move, the new President named Jerald F. (Jerry) terHorst, the 52-year-old Washington bureau chief of the Detroit News, as his press secretary, replacing Ronald L. Ziegler, who flew to California with Mr. Nixon. He also named another

former newsman, Robert T. Hartmann, as counselor to the President. Hartmann, head of the Washington buread of the Washington burreau of the Los Angles Times from 1954 to 1964, joined Mr. Ford's House staff in 1966 and has been chief of staff of the vice presidential office. He is 57.

TerHorst, at his first briefing, in a crowded, sweltering White House press room, disclosed that the President had named four former colleagues from the House to direct the transition to a new White House operation.

The "transition team," which held its first meeting

with Mr. Ford late yester-day, includes:

• John O. Marsh Jr., a former four-term Demo-cratic congressman i from Virginia, who was the top Pentagon lobbyist for a year and joined Mr. Ford's vice

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presidential staff to handle defense and international security areas.

Rogers C. B. Morton, a Republican congressman from Maryland from 1963 to 1971, when he was named Secretary of Interior—the post he still holds.

Donald Rumsfeld, a four-term Republican con-gressman from Illinois, who was, successively, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, counselor to the President, and director of the Cost of Living Council in the Nixon administration. Rumsfeld returned yester-day from his post as ambas-sador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels, and terHorst said no decision has been made about replacing him.

William W. Scranton, who was elected governor of Pennsylvania in 1962 after one term in the House, who challenged unsuccessfully for the Republican presidential nomination in 1964, and served as chairman of the President's Commission on Campus Unrest in 1970 and as a member of the Price Commission in 1971-72.

TerHorst said the fourman team will serve as Mr. Ford's liaison in parceling out assignments temporarily among members of the old presidential and vice presidential staffs and will make recommendations to him on a new White House staff structure.

The President has made it plain that he wants a smaller and less top-heavy staff operation than that which Mr. Nixon built up

over the past five years.

TerHorst said Mr. Ford

"has uppermost on his
mind" his responsibility, under the same 25th Amendment procedure by which he became Vice President, to nominate a new No. 2 man, but he and others on the Ford staff intimated the choice would be delayed un-til after Monday night's televised address to Congress and the country, which is the main focus of the President's attention over the weekend.

TerHorst said the President had told congressional leaders, including House Speaker Carl Albert, now next in line for the presidency, that he hoped to send them his nomination "within a week or ten days.

The name of former New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller continued to dominate the speculation, as someone who met Mr. Ford's reported prime criteria of being an asset in a possible 1976 presidential campaign and possessing enough administrative skill and experience to help in the work of the administration.

But conservatives in Congress continued their drumbeat of opposition to a Rockefeller appointment, arguing that his role as the liberal champion in past intra-party disputes would make him a

divisive choice.

About two dozen Republican senators and representatives met yesterday morning to organize their campaign against Rockefeller and agreed to endorse Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.), victor over Rockefeller in the bitter 1964 presidential nomination battle, as their own favorite.

Support for the two men. developed on predictable lines. Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.), a leader in Rockefeller's past presidential drives, said Rockefeller was his "No. 1 choice" for Vice President.

House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes (Ariz.) and California Gov. Ronald Reagan, both conservatives, endorsed Goldwater, but Reagan conceded that if he were asked to serve himself, he would consider it "a call

Anumber of House Republicans and state GOP officials began publicly promoting the cause of Republican National Chairman George

Bush, who is also known to be more than willing to accept if asked.

Some longtime Ford associates believe he may choose his former House colleague, Melvin R. Laird, who began the Rockefeller-for-Vice President talk several days

And there was scattered support for several senators, representatives and governors, including, as one new name, Washington Gov. Daniel J. Evans. Washington GOP chairman Ross Davis said he had received a phone call from a Ford associate asking about Evans' availability.

Mr. Ford plunged into the problems of organizing his presidency immediately after taking the oath of office at noon yesterday, going from that ceremony to a meeting of senior Nixon staff aides, assembled by Haig in the Roosevelt Room of the White House.

TerHorst said the President told them he would not request the usual pro forma resignations "and hoped they would stay on to assist him in the transition period."

Haig replied on behalf of all the top two dozen domestic, legislative, legal political and national security aides that they would assist the new President "in our hour of common cause," TerHorst

While the long-term roles of many of the Nixon assistants remain in doubt, Mr. Ford confirmed that he would ask Alan Greenspan, picked last month by Mr. Nixon as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers not to drop out.

It was also learned that

Scott and other congressional leaders had recommended to the President the retention of Mr. Nixon's top legislative liaison men, William E. Timmons, Tom C. Korologos and Max L. Friedersdorf.

journalists named by Mr. Ford as his

first White House assistants are both widely known in the Washington press corps.

Hartman, a writer and political adviser to Mr. Fordfor the past eight years, also took on a major administrative role when Mr. Ford became Vice President. His new title as counselor was interpreted as a sign that the President wanted to use him again primarily as a trouble-shotter and adviser, the role that others on the Ford staff think most comfortable for Hartman.

TerHorst, a short, pipe-smoking man who looks

younger than he is, has been a Washington correspondent for the Detroit News since 1958. He comes from Mr. Ford's home town of Grand Rapids and, as the President remarked in a jocular introduction of TerHorst to his colleagues in the press room, he "connived to help me get a little extra space in the Grand Rapids Press," where TerHorst was then working, when Mr. Ford made his first race for Congress in 1946.

TerHorst will be assisted by Paul Miltich and William Roberts, who had handled press and television for Mr. Ford previously



President Ford introduces his press sceretary, Jerald F. (Jerry) Horst, Detroit News Washington Bueau chief.