

Ford Stops Flights Carrying Nixon Data

By Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Ford has ordered an end to the sending of Air Force jets to California every week to take classified National Security Council information to former President Nixon.

Press secretary Ron Nessen said yesterday that Mr. Ford ordered the flights "deferred" of stories reporting that the of stories reporting that the flights cost the government about \$6,500 per round trip.

Later, deputy press secretary John Hushen explained that the material is now sent to Mr. Nixon on a high-security circuit connecting the situation room in the White House with the Coast Guard station next to the Nixon San Clemente home.

"That's how the packet was delivered last Friday and that's how the packet was delivered today," Hushen said.

Nessen said last month in explaining the briefings that Mr. Nixon was given "a weekly classified summary of international, political, economic and military developments" of from 10 to 20 pages. The material is prepared by the NSC staff.

"These materials are classified and the law forbids the transmission of classified documents through the mails or on commercial airlines," Nessen said last month in justifying the use of Air Force jets.

In recent years, Presidents have provided security briefings for their predecessors. The practice was put on a regular basis for former Presidents Eisenhower and Johnson, and Mr. Ford ordered the practice continued after Mr. Nixon resigned.

The President, who returned to the White House after 1 a.m. after speeches in Iowa and Illinois Thursday, was reported confident that his campaign speeches were helping his party.

"He does feel that in some of the places where he has been, the Republican candidates seem to be coming up," Nessen reported.

Back in the White House, the President held a meeting for more than an hour with black civil rights leaders, who complained to him about his stand on school busing in Boston.

They also criticized proposals to cut government spending in areas they said would hurt poor persons.

Vernon Jordan, director of the National Urban League, said he told Mr. Ford his state-

ment on Boston desegregation "did not reflect the kind of leadership we expected in that situation."

In a news conference, Mr. Ford said earlier this month that he disagreed with a federal court order requiring busing, but believed the law should be enforced.

Clarence Mitchell, director of the NAACP's Washington office, said Mr. Ford promised vigorous enforcement of the law.

Jordan said the President made a "commitment for a

continuing dialogue" with black leaders. Bayard Rustin, executive director of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute, said there is an unwillingness in the administration to face up to the seriousness of the economic situation.

Before meeting with the black leaders, Mr. Ford met with his principal economic advisers on the budget and later pledged, through Nessen, to submit to Congress next month proposals to cut 1975 spending below \$300 billion.

The President also met with a delegation from the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the American Newspaper Publishers Association to discuss his veto of the freedom of information bill. He promised to sign a revised measure if the parts he objected to in his veto are removed by Congress, Nessen reported.

The President accepted the resignation, effective Nov. 8, of Raymond K. Price, head of former President Nixon's speech-writing team.

Price plans to write a book on the Nixon years. He said he would spend part of his time in San Clemente and part here while writing what he described as "a book on the substantive side — not on Watergate — to wrap up what the President was trying to do and why."

The book will discuss the "successes and failures in for-

eign and domestic policy," Price said. He said he did not plan to assist Mr. Nixon in writing the Nixon book, but would be available to the former President to help from time to time on an informal basis.