Ford Called Nixon After the Election

Palm Springs

President Ford disclosed yesterday that two days after his election defeat by Jimmy Carter, he telephoned former President Nixon to say hello.

The call last Thursday from the White House to Nixon at his San Clemente (Orange county) retreat lasted about five minutes, the President said.

Mr. Ford, in Palm Springs for a post-election holiday,

spoke about the call in answer to questions from reporters as he was about to start a round of golf.

"I called him (Nixon) and said hello to him," was all the President would say.

White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen said he learned of the phone call soon after it was made but did not volunteer the information because no one asked him.

Reuters