

Rogers Calls In Dobrynin To Discuss Nixon's Visit

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 — While President Nixon was in Florida preparing for his trip to China, Secretary of State William P. Rogers called in Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin today to begin discussion of the agenda for Mr. Nixon's visit to Moscow in May.

The meeting between Mr. Rogers and Mr. Dobrynin, made known by the State Department, as part of a continuing Administration effort to assure the Russians that the Peking trip this month is not being made at their expense.

It also gave Mr. Rogers an opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues with Mr. Dobrynin, who recently returned to Washington after four months in the Soviet capital.

Meanwhile, Soviet and American negotiators concluded 10 days of talks on maritime and related issues at the State Department with a brief communique announcing that the results of their negotiations would now be studied by the two Governments.

Virtually no American merchant ships call at Soviet ports and, because of boycotts by

East Coast and Gulf of Mexico longshoremen, Soviet ships are limited to West Coast ports.

The negotiators reportedly discussed ways of expanding the use by both countries of their large merchant fleets in trade between them, which is expected to rise.

Charles W. Bray 3d, the State Department spokesman, denied that the delay in an agreement in the maritime talks was connected with a desire by the Administration to postpone final action until the Nixon visit to Moscow in May.

But in recent weeks, the Administration has indicated that it was in no hurry to conclude accords with the Russians. It has been suggested that the slow pace of negotiations on trade and arms control might be related to several factors: White House irritation over the Soviet role in backing India against Pakistan in the recent war; the Trip to Peking beginning Feb. 21, and the desire that any new agreements be disclosed when Mr. Nixon is in Moscow.

Mr. Nixon left Washington last night for a long weekend at the Florida White House in Key Biscayne. Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, said Mr. Nixon has with him reports on China from the State Department and other agencies. Mr. Nixon is to leave about Feb. 16 for China.

Mr. Bray, speaking at a news conference, also defended Mr. Rogers's strong attack yesterday on Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, who is seeking the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Asked if Mr. Rogers would continue to speak out on political issues, in contrast to some Secretaries of State who sought to avoid politics, Mr. Bray said that when Mr. Rogers "feels strongly" on a foreign policy issue, he believes it is within the function of his office to express his views.