

White House

Says Ziegler Still the One

San Clemente

The White House yesterday officially denied a report from presidential counselor Melvin R. Laird that press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler would no longer be the chief White House spokesman.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren, who has conducted the daily White House briefings every day this week, said that Ziegler will continue to be the press secretary and will continue to conduct White House press briefings.

Laird was "expressing some personal views," Warren said. "Perhaps there will be something after he meets the President."

Laird is scheduled to meet Mr. Nixon here today to confer on a wide variety of domestic issues, including economic problems and plans for Phase Four.

Earlier this month, as part of the White House reorganization brought about in the wake of the Watergate scandal, the President gave Ziegler the added title of assistant to the President.

Since then, Ziegler has held the daily press conferences less often than Warren. Ziegler has spent many hours in meetings with the President and General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., Warren said.

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