

Nixon to Bare Tax Returns

By Lou Cannon

Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon told a bipartisan group of senators last night that he planned to release his income tax returns later this week.

The President's pledge was reported by one of the participants at the White House session, Democratic Sen. J. Bennett Johnston of Louisiana. It was not specified, he said, which taxable years the returns would cover.

The meeting was described as "very friendly" and turned quickly from Water-

gate to the Middle East and energy crises. Last night's session was part of the President's "Operation Candor" campaign to repair the political damage of the Watergate scandal.

Earlier in the day Mr. Nixon, in a confident, wise-cracking mood, assured the Seafarers International Union that the present shortage of gasoline and fuel supplies is a "temporary problem" that probably will come to an end within a year.

Mr. Nixon said that no one will suffer from driving slower or from keeping

homes cooler. In the end, he said, the United States will be completely free of dependence on foreign nations for energy and then "nobody can cut America's lifeline."

Mr. Nixon's speech, designed to drum up public support for the energy-saving measures he announced Sunday, was delivered before one of the trade union forums most friendly to him.

Seafarers International President Paul Hall introduced Mr. Nixon by reading from a 1972 endorsement

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statement which praised him for supporting the Merchant Marine and concluded: "We in the maritime industry here find—on the basis of performance—that we can believe in Richard Nixon." Hall said he stood by the statement.

The announcement of Mr. Nixon's visit to the union convention here coincided with a Time magazine report that investigators for Watergate Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski are investigating a \$100,000 contribution made by the union to the Nixon re-election committee.

Mr. Nixon was in an expansive and good-humored mood as he addressed the union delegates. He likened himself to a captain at the helm and said he did not intend to "jump ship."

Referring to his own declaration of a 50-mile-an-hour speed limit, Mr. Nixon said he had't driven a car since he became President because "the Secret Service doesn't trust my driving."

"I don't trust their driving, but that is all right," the President continued. "In any event, they drive the car, I sit in the back seat, and I must admit that sometimes we have gone well over 50. In California, on the freeways . . . most people go 80."

Mr. Nixon said the lower speed limit will cause no hardship but will simply mean that it will take "a little longer to get to work, a little longer to get to the ball game, a little longer to get to church, maybe a little longer to make the trip to see your mother in-law, maybe . . . you would n't mind taking a little longer."

Mr. Nixon said he was al-



By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post

Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers International Union, greets Mr. Nixon.

ways interested in geography and would have become a sailor except that he became seasick. But he said that Winston Churchill told him in 1958, when Mr. Nixon was 45, that that he would outgrow his seasickness and that Churchill had been right.

"As I become older, I don't get seasick, however rough the seas are . . ." the President said. "I can assure you that you don't need to worry about my getting seasick or jumping ship. I am going to

stay at the helm until we bring it into port."

Mr. Nixon assured the union delegates that the United States was not going to return to the World War II rationing days of "not enough gasoline, not enough meat, not enough of this, that and the other thing."

" . . . We have a temporary problem, a problem that is going to exist for this year, perhaps somewhat longer — we trust not much longer, depending upon what happens in the international

scene — and therefore, we have got to deal with that problem," the President said.

Mr. Nixon's speech was the first in what is expected to be a series of appeals before various forums in be-

half of his energy policies. The President on Sunday announced a nationwide ban on the Sunday sale of gasoline, to go into effect when Congress approves pending emergency legislation.

He also asked for the 50-mile speed limit, a ban on display lighting for businesses and asked homeowners to dispense with outside ornamental lighting.

In his speech yesterday Mr. Nixon spoke again of making the United States self-sufficient in energy by 1980, but he celebrated this nation's heavy energy use.

"There are only 7 per cent of the people of the world living in the United States, and we use 30 per cent of all the energy," he said. "That isn't bad; that is good. That means we are the richest, strongest people in the world, and that we have the highest standard of living in the world. That is why we need so much energy, and may it always be that way."

Mr. Nixon was applauded frequently as he spoke in a crowded second-floor hotel room before signs that said, "Save America's fishing industry" and "A strong inland waterways system means a stronger America."

The President's loudest applause came when he called for a strong Merchant Marine so that the United States need not be "dependent on some other country."