

Nixon Has Reshuffled His Political Lineup

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After three months of juggling, begun almost immediately after the 1970 off-year elections, the new political structure of the Nixon administration finally is near completion.

Its principal element is the shifting of all but the highest policy decisions and unavoidable political public relations tasks from the White House to the newly beefed-up Republican National Committee.

The President, as the leader of the Republican Party, of course will continue to call the main shots, with counsel from ranking political advisers of the past, notably Attorney General John N. Mitchell and Mr. Nixon's closest White House lieutenants.

But as a major step to enable both the President and Vice President Spiro Agnew to adopt lower political profiles in 1971 than they had in 1970, most of the political support staff and functions are being moved to the national committee.

The new national chairman, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, will assume most of Agnew's old role as the hard-hitting partisan spokesman of the GOP, with the Vice President resuming more of his early 1969 duties as liaison with state and local officialdom and a salesman of administration programs on that level.

CHAIRMEN

The new co-chairman, Thomas B. Evans Jr., national committeeman from Delaware, has taken over the day-to-day operation of the committee. Anne Armstrong, national committeewoman from Texas also appointed a co-chairman, is there mainly to placate GOP women.

The beefed-up structure now also has two deputy chairmen, Richard Richards, former Utah state chairman, handling political organization, and Lyn Nofziger, who is leaving the White House Congressional liaison staff to handle media and communications at the committee. Nofziger did the same job for California Governor Ronald Reagan in 1967-68.

Most work with state and

Prototype of BART Train To Be Shown

A prototype three-car Bay Area Rapid Transit train will be open to public inspection at the Hayward station Saturday. BART executives announced yesterday.

The open house at the station, at Montgomery and B streets in Hayward, is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hayward Mayor Leo Howell and BART vice president George M. Sillman will participate in ceremonies at noon. They will be assisted by four Miss Hayward contestants, Ben Davidson of the Oakland Raiders football team, and several music groups.

Continuous slide shows and movies of the BART project will also be shown throughout the day at 22445 Foothill boulevard in downtown Hayward.

local Republican leaders around the country, including assistance on the relatively few election campaigns scheduled in 1971, is to be handled by the national committee.

Murray M. Chotiner, who joined the White House political staff in January, 1970, ostensibly to help the administration gear up for the 1970 elections, is expected to leave shortly. His departure will leave Harry Dent, former South Carolina party chairman, as the sole political operative on the White House staff.

LIAISON

Another White House aide involved in the 1970 campaign, Charles Colson, is to resume his earlier function as liaison with various special groups, from the Chamber of Commerce to the AFL-CIO and various service, religious and ethnic organizations in-between.

Dent last year divided responsibility with Chotiner for overseeing 1970 elections in all 50 states. Chotiner had 31, including California and most of the other large states, and Dent had 19, in-

cluding those in his native South.

Henceforth he is to revert largely to his 1969 role as the "political antenna" at the White House for the President and ranking Nixon lieutenants, keeping in touch with political developments in and out of the GOP structure around the country.

Dent also is to continue his old function of political public relations at the White House — helping important political figures reach or get answers from the President when they can't be shunted to the national committee for resolutions of their problems.

SENATORS

Republican senators whose support the President needs for his ambitious legislative program obviously fall into the category of those who still will be able to call the White House directly for aid.

The big shift in the political focus from the White House to the committee has not been cleared in any significant way with party leaders around the country. But it is anticipated that when they understand how the committee has been strengthened, and how the new structure will work, they will support the approach.

The shakeup, according to informed administration sources, stemmed from three main factors: widespread criticism of the 1970 campaign, despite post-election claims of victory by the President and Agnew; the decision to launch a heavy domestic legislative program needing bipartisan support; Mr. Nixon's own concern that he was being labeled excessively as a "political President."

"In 1971, you're going to see very little of the political hat," one White House source put it.

PROFILE

As part of maintaining a low profile, the plan now is for the President to stay out of the few special Congressional elections this year and the only two gubernatorial races, in Mississippi and Kentucky. Mississippi is a sure Democratic state but the Republicans now hold Kentucky and are expected to have a tough time keeping it.