

Nixon Called Plays at Paris Huddles

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON — Richard Nixon, superfan, literally sent in the plays during Henry Kissinger's dozen secret trips to Paris to negotiate with the North Vietnamese, it was disclosed yesterday.

Even while Kissinger was deep in discussion with Hanoi's envoys, an authoritative White House source said, messages signed "Quarterback" were handed to him.

"Quarterback" was, of course, Nixon.

Kissinger would respond with a message back to the White House. It would be taken immediately to the President by Brig. Gen. Alexander M. Haig, Kissinger's deputy.

Nixon would study it and reply.

Calls the Shots

Before a meeting with the Communists, the source said, the President would go over

Kissinger's briefing documents line by line, calling the shots and making changes.

He also would personally review Kissinger's opening remarks for each of the meetings and would work out his responses.

The President also involved himself in detail on arrangements for Kissinger's flights to Paris aboard military aircraft.

Haig would be informed of the exact moment of Kissinger's arrival at a Paris hideaway and also would be told that Kissinger had not been detected.

Quickly Briefed

On the flight back from the Paris meetings — each of which would last about two days and frequently fell during a Sunday-Monday period — Kissinger would dictate a 10 to 12-page report to the President.

As soon as he landed he would go directly to the White House to brief Nixon, often until the early morning hours, with Nixon asking exhaustive questions.

After he had his reports from Kissinger, Nixon would call in Secretary of State William P. Rogers, give him a progress report and ask for a State Department analysis.