

SFChronicle SEP 12 1973

Connally and Nixon Discuss Foreign Tour

Washington

President Nixon met for 45 minutes yesterday with John B. Connally, who is openly considering a bid for the 1976 Republican presidential nomination, and discussed plans to send Connally on a mission to Moscow and the Middle East later this year.

Connally, a former Democrat, will be "carrying some messages" overseas for the President, the White House said.

Presidential spokesman Gerald L. Warren said the nature of Connally's foreign tour had not been decided, except that it probably would take place "some time later this year."

Warren evaded all reporters' questions about the possibility that Mr. Nixon's decision to send Connally on a headline-making tour abroad meant the President had become disenchanted with Vice President Spiro T. Agnew and his legal problems and was shifting support to Connally as his personal choice for the 1976 nomination.

United Press