The Nixon Firings

by Don Bacon

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Washington (NNS) - In carefully chosen phrases, President Nixon has been telling the departing members of his first administration just how much he hates to see them go.

The subtle shading of each departure statement issued by the White House is intentional and designed to convey Nixon's exact feeling about the individual, according to a White House source involved in the process.

The President, it is understood, personally decides the key phrasing of each resignation statement.

Director Richard Helms of the Central Intelligence Agency got eased out warmly - "with greatest respect and deepest appreciation" - but there was no indication of presidential regret.

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