The Matter

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Key Biscayne, Fla.

President Nixon arrived here for the Easter holidays yesterday after a morning cabinet meeting at which he emphasized that the objective of the Watergate investigation was to discover "the entire truth of the matter."

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, the only one of the top presidential staff aides to accompany Mr. Nixon, said that the President has instructed "everyone in the administration, everyone in government to cooperate fully with the ongoing investigation and the grand jury."

In reply to reporters' questions, Ziegler said he could not predict whether Mr. Nixon would concern himself with the Watergate affair during the weekend. Ziegler answered simply, "No," when asked if H. R. Haldeman, as rumored, has resigned as the President's chief of staff.

As for other White House resignations, Ziegler said, "There's no change from what I said yesterday." He refused to reply to questions about whether or not John W. Dean III, the White House counsel, was at his of-

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fice yesterday, saying "I don't want to go over that kind of dialogue again."

DEPARTURE

Dean has been named as one of those directly involved in planning the Watergate operation. Although he has said publicly that he will not resign, his departure from the White House is believed likely.

In reply to another question, Ziegler said the President did not talk to former attorney general John N. Mitchell yesterday. Ziegler said Mr. Nixon did talk by telephone with assistant attorney general Henry E. Petersen, whom he has assigned to head a new investigation of the Watergate affair.

Mr. Nixon spent several minutes chatting and shaking hands with some of the 200 persons who greeted him on his arrival at Homestead Air Force Base near here. But when a reporter tried to put a question to him about Watergate, a White House official immediately stepped

between the President and the reporter. Mr. Nixon did not reply to the question.

MOOD

Ziegler was asked about the President's mood. He replied only that Mr. Nixon had studied papers during the flight from Washington. But it was the President, Ziegler said, who raised the Watergate issue at the cabinet meeting, at which he emphasized that "the objective is to develop facts and the entire truth of the matter."

The absence here of Haldeman, and of John D. Ehrlichman, Mr. Nixon's other top domestic aide, was the subject of other questions. Ziegler said both men were spending the holidays at home with their families and "perhaps" would join Mr. Nixon here next week. In the past, the two have often brought their families to Key Biscayne for such holidays.

The President was accompanied by his wife, Pat, their daughters, Tricia Cox and Julie and David Eisenhower.