

# Nixon to Speak on Watergate Today

## Major TV Address to The Nation

### Washington

President Nixon will address the nation on the Watergate scandal today, delivering via television and radio his long-awaited response to the controversy that has shaken his administration.

The 6 p.m. PDT speech will be made live from his Oval Office and will be about a half hour in length, the White House said.

At the same time, Mr. Nixon will release a more detailed written statement — reportedly about 4000 words in length — giving his account of the events that have spurred widespread investigations and brought a constitutional dispute between Congress and the chief executive.

Besides denying advance knowledge of the Watergate bugging and coverup, sources said Mr. Nixon will attempt in the speech to rally support for his second term foreign and domestic goals. One official said the President believes the nation is "ready to turn the corner" and overcome the scandal's impact.

### RETREAT

Mr. Nixon flew by helicopter last evening to his Camp David retreat in the Maryland mountains to complete work on the speech and the written statement. Accompanying him were his personal secretary and executive assistant, Rose Mary Woods, and another secretary.

The address, to be carried

by all the national television and radio networks, will be Mr. Nixon's first extensive response since May 22 to the scandal that has shaken his administration.

When deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren announced the time and format of Mr. Nixon's speech, he would not give details of

Back Page Col. 7

### From Page 1

the address, but other sources indicated it would include these major elements:

- A denial by Mr. Nixon that he was aware of plans to bug the Democratic National Committee's headquarters at the Watergate, or that he was aware of or participated in the subsequent coverup.

- A concession that he discounted allegations that White House and re-election committee officials were involved in the scandal because his subordinates told him a thorough investigation had turned up no such involvement.

- A review of his first-term accomplishments, coupled with an urgent plea to the American people to join him in overcoming the scandal's impact by pressing ahead toward the goals of lasting peace abroad and an end to inflation at home.

The address is expected to touch on offshoots of the Watergate controversy — such as the 1971 break-in to the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

Still unclear on the eve of the speech was whether Mr. Nixon would publicly voice his reported unhappiness with what he considers the partisanship of the Senate Watergate committee and the probe by special prosecutor Archibald Cox.

Associated Press