

Nixon's European Trip Confirmed

Washington

President Nixon will go to Europe in an effort to patch up cracks in the Atlantic Alliance, White House officials confirmed yesterday.

The anticipated two-week European tour, probably in November, is designed to highlight a new series of foreign and domestic appearances by the embattled President, who on Wednesday declared his intention to leave Watergate behind and "get on with the urgent business of the nation."

Mr. Nixon will visit France, Britain, Germany, Italy and Belgium and possibly one or two other nations, White House officials said.

NATO

The Brussels visit will be tied to meetings with leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in an attempt to coordinate a unified position on forthcoming arms reduction talks with the Soviet Union.

The President's European visit will come at a time of mounting pressure to reduce the 300,000-man American troop force in Western Europe.

The European meetings will be the first in a renewed series of trips abroad planned by the President. He is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union early next year

for a third meeting with Communist party leader Leonid Brezhnev.

JAPAN

He has also accepted an invitation to visit Japan next year and probably will make a Latin American visit as well.

Yesterday the President flew unexpectedly to Key Biscayne for a weekend of rest and relaxation. Aides had said earlier that they had expected Mr. Nixon to spend the weekend at Camp David.

On Monday the President will fly to New Orleans for a speech before the 74th national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

TOPIC

White House officials said the speech will focus on foreign policy and probably will not deal with Watergate issues.

However, Watergate questions are expected to be in the forefront when Mr. Nixon holds a news conference in San Clemente, where he is scheduled to spend two weeks after his New Orleans speech.

It will be the first news conference for the President since March 15, the longest period of time during his administration when he has not met with the press.

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