

Japan Instead

Nixon May Delay Trip to Europe

Washington

President Nixon may postpone his tour of Europe this fall and go to Japan instead, administration sources said yesterday.

For months Mr. Nixon has been talking about a European trip — but without naming a date — as part of his projected "Year of Europe" policy. Officials who declined to be identified said Mr. Nixon's visit will definitely be postponed and one source said it might be in February.

But there has been increasing speculation in Washington and Europe that because of the Watergate

scandal and other pressures, the trip would either be canceled or postponed.

There also have been indications that Western European leaders feel such a presidential trip would be unproductive at this time.

Mr. Nixon was invited to visit Japan when Premier Kakuei Tanaka was in Washington August 1. He gave tentative acceptance but the trip was not expected this year.

Administration sources said a visit to Tokyo is being seriously considered but insisted that no decision had been made about calling off the European trip.

United Press