

Nixon Flies to Florida Without Press

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 1—For the first time since he has been President, Richard M. Nixon made a long-distance flight today on his Air Force jet without a pool of reporters and photographers on board.

He left Washington suddenly at midafternoon for a long weekend in Key Biscayne, Fla., with only a minimum support staff of about a dozen Secret Service agents and other personnel.

Usually he is accompanied on such trips by senior staff members, members of his family and about 10 reporters and photographers. It has long been a tradition that any President traveling out of the Washington area be accompanied by a press pool aboard the Presidential carrier, so that newspapers, magazines and networks can be assured of continuous coverage of the President.

Today, Mr. Nixon rushed

from the White House and got on the helicopter that took him to Andrews Air Force Base to board his Boeing 707 jet before the press office could assemble the pool.

"The President decided to go," said the deputy press secretary, Gerald L. Warren, "and there was not time to notify a pool. We had anticipated that he would make his decision later in the afternoon, giving us time to make the usual notification."

The press plane, a chartered commercial jet, which usually carries the majority of those covering the President, left two and one-half hours later.

Mr. Warren said the President had not been accompanied by the usual staff members who travel with him—Alexander M. Haig Jr., the chief of staff; Ronald L. Ziegler, press secretary; Rose Mary Woods, his personal secretary, and others. Mr. Haig and Mr. Ziegler were to join him in Key Bis-

cayne sometime tonight.

When the plane landed at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida, however, a Secret Service official said that Mr. Nixon had been accompanied by Bryce N. Harlow, one of his counselors.

At Homestead, the party boarded helicopters and was taken immediately to the Presidential compound, which is next door to the home of Mr. Nixon's close friend, C. B. Rebozo, with whom Mr. Nixon has spent many weekends.

Mr. Warren said that Mr. Nixon had never before gone without a press pool.

The President left the White House shortly after 2 P.M., a few minutes after he had conferred with Premier Golda Meir of Israel and said good-by to her on the White House lawn, resplendent with fall flowers. His departure was announced before reporters in the press room were informed he was going.

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