

Nixon May Ride Rails

Washington

Administration officials are looking into the possibility of getting a specially equipped railroad car for President Nixon to use instead of a helicopter to go to Camp David, White House sources said yesterday.

Camp David, located atop a peak in the Catoctin mountains of Maryland, is about 65 miles from Washington and a favorite retreat of Mr. Nixon for weekend

relaxation or periods when he wants privacy.

The President spent last weekend at the White House rather than traveling to Camp David after a presidential spokesman said Mr. Nixon wanted "to set an example" for other Americans after he had urged people to do less traveling to save fuel in the energy crisis. He was expected to remain at the White House again this weekend.

Meanwhile, the sources said White House officials have been talking to representatives of Amtrak, the semi-governmental rail passenger corporation, to find out if a railroad car can be redesigned to fit presidential needs and security. Although specially refitted, it would be attached to regularly scheduled trains.

The final decision on whether to go ahead with the idea was said to be up to Mr. Nixon and the sources

said he had not made up his mind.

Even if the rail arrangements are made, the President still would have to use a car to travel the last 30 miles of the trip from the station to Camp David. When he travels by helicopter, Mr. Nixon leaves from a landing site on the south lawn of the White House and arrives directly at Camp David.

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