

Nixon Plans Oil Conference

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Jan. 8—The White House confirmed today that President Nixon is considering a high level Washington meeting of the leading industrialized non-Communist nations to discuss long-range oil supply questions.

However, White House spokesman Gerald L. Warren said that an Associated Press report out of Brussels declaring that invitations have been issued to such a meeting was "speculative." Warren said that various proposals are under consideration.

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger said at a San Clemente news conference last week that the President would take the lead in promoting concerted action of about 20 nations, including both oil-producing and oil-consuming nations, to deal with long-range energy problems. Kissinger said the oil-producing countries had an interest in stabilizing oil supplies and prices in order to avert a worldwide depression.

Warren also announced a series of high-level diplomatic changes.

Joseph S. Sisco, the former

assistant secretary of state for near eastern and south Asian affairs, was named under secretary of state for political affairs, replacing William J. Porter.

Porter will be nominated as ambassador to Canada, replacing Adolph W. Schmidt, who is retiring.

[In Washington it was learned that George S. Springsteen will be named Executive Secretary of the State Department, replacing Thomas R. Pickering. Pickering a career officer, will be named director general of the Foreign Service.]

Warren also announced that Rep. William S. Mailliard, a San Francisco Republican and veteran of 11 terms in the House, will be nominated as the U.S. Representative to the Organization of American States. He succeeds Joseph John Jova, who has been appointed ambassador to Mexico.

Mailliard is one of several experienced GOP congressmen who have declined to seek re-election before an electorate troubled by Watergate, energy problems and the economy. In Mailliard's case, his own re-election prospects were dampened by a court-ordered

reapportionment that reduced his percentage of Republican voters.

Sisco had planned to assume the presidency of Hamilton College in New York in the spring. But he said in a letter to Coleman Burker, chairman of the college's board of trustees, that this was "no longer a realistic timetable" because of developments in the Middle East, particularly the opening of the Geneva conference.

Warren said in announcing Sisco's appointment that the President and Kissinger, who recommended it, believe that Sisco "has been an indispensable element of continuity in the U.S. policy as it relates to the Middle East." Sisco will continue to play an important role in Middle East policy-making, Warren said.

The conference of industrialized nations that Warren said was under consideration is part of an initiative first suggested last month by Kissinger in a London speech. The Secretary of State at that time called for an energy action group consisting of European nations, the United States and Japan.

Last week he broadened that idea to include the oil-producing nations. However, Kissinger was vague about de-

tails and it was believed here that a meeting of the oil-consuming countries might conceivably serve as a prelude to an expanded meeting or series of meetings.

On Monday, Henri Simonet, vice president in charge of energy for the Common Market, made a report to the group's 13-man executive commission on the possibility of an international meeting to discuss oil supplies. In the past the French have been reluctant to engage in such a meeting.

In other action today, Warren denied a wire service report of an impending reorganization in the Domestic Council and of a prospective White House shakeup that would see presidential assistant Ronald L. Ziegler relinquish his title as press secretary. But Warren did say that Ken Cole Jr., director of the Domestic Council, would assume expanded duties when presidential counselor Melvin R. Laird departs Feb. 1.

Mr. Nixon worked in the office of the Western White House today as heavy rains and high tides continued along the southern California coast. Warren said the President went for a three-hour private drive Monday with his friend, C. G. (Bebe) Rebozo.