

NYTimes
Ziegler Says Queries of Nixon
Dwelt 'Too Much' on Watergate

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MIAMI, March 8—President Nixon's secretary accused newsmen today of "too much dwelling on Watergate" during a White House news conference Wednesday night, and said he hoped for more balance in the questioning as the President met the press more often in the months ahead.

Chatting with reporters accompanying the President to Florida was Ronald L. Ziegler, who has become one of Mr. Nixon's closest advisers. He pointed out that only four of the 19 questions posed during the 40-minute session two days ago were unrelated to the Watergate scandals.

'Questioning Will Shift'

The questioning on Watergate topics, while "proper and legitimate," contained "a little too much point of view," Mr. Ziegler contended. They failed to accurately reflect what Mr. Nixon "has been doing with his time as President," he asserted.

But Mr. Ziegler expressed the belief that the President's com-

munications with the press would improve in balance and flavor as they became more frequent.

"As he holds them [news conferences] on a more frequent basis, as I think he will, the area of questioning will shift the other way to the things he's doing in foreign and domestic policy," Mr. Ziegler predicted.

Mr. Nixon left Washington around 1 P.M. this afternoon aboard his aircraft, "The Spirit of '76," which he briefly abandoned for commercial flights and smaller planes just after Christmas because of the energy shortage.

The President declared last month and again on Wednesday, however, that the "back" of the "energy crisis" had been "broken," and today's trip was his second to Florida aboard the big four-engined jet in about two weeks. He is expected to remain at his home on nearby Key Biscayne over the weekend, and to return to Washington on Monday.