



UPI Telephoto

Nixon's Coffee Break

Leaving aides to scramble after him, President Nixon went strolling in downtown Houston yesterday and wound up drinking coffee at a drugstore lunch counter.

Mr. Nixon set out from his hotel about 7:20 a.m., accompanied by Secret Service agents, and made an impromptu stop at the Keystone Drug Store where

he exchanged banter with a waitress whose nickname is Shrimp.

The waitress, Marie Hampilton, offered the President hot biscuits and other warm dishes but he selected coffee with sugar.

Asked how old she was, she challenged him to guess. Mr. Nixon told her to turn around and

walk a bit so he could make a judgment and came up with 27. She confessed to being 26.

Eight or ten others were at the counter when Mrs. Hampilton told Mr. Nixon there was no charge for the coffee. Some chimed in with, "put it on my bill."

The President left a \$1 tip.