

**BUTTERFIELD'S AIDE
DENIES FLIGHT LINK**

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 1—A spokesman for Alexander P. Butterfield, who until becoming Federal Aviation Administrator last year was the White House aide responsible for the tape recording devices there, challenged Wednesday a report in The New York Times dealing with Mr. Butterfield's departure yesterday for the West Coast.

Louis Churchville, director of the aviation agency's office of public affairs, said that Mr. Butterfield's trip was planned

and publicly announced long in advance and had nothing to do with the release yesterday of partial transcripts of some White House tapes.

Mr. Churchville insisted that there was no connection between the two events and that there was no connection last fall when Mr. Butterfield flew to New Zealand from Washington when other tapes were found to be either incomplete or nonexistent.

Mr. Churchville further insisted that Mr. Butterfield had not been in charge of the tape recording devices, as The Times report said.