

Nixon Aide Critical Of Mideast Violence

By Carroll Kilpatrick
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A White House spokesman yesterday criticized both the Arab terrorist attack on an Israeli school and the Israeli raids on Lebanon that followed.

Deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren said that "continuing cycles of violence of this type can only obstruct the achievement of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East."

Warren's carefully phrased comments were made shortly before the President and Mrs. Nixon, accompanied by their daughter Tricia Cox, flew to Key Biscayne, Fla., for a long weekend.

The President had had high hopes that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's Middle East negotiations would lead to a withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli troops in the Golan Heights area and might open the way for a presidential trip to the Middle East.

Now there appears to be little chance of a Middle East tour in the immediate future.

When Mr. Nixon left the White House shortly after 2 p.m. yesterday, he appeared to be very tired. His physical appearance sometimes changes from day to day. When he spoke Wednesday at a reception for Mexican parliamentarians, he appeared well and relaxed, but yesterday he looked haggard.

Aides have said the President has wanted from some time to have another weekend in Florida, but the last two were spent on trips attempting to rally support against impeachment.

Press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said that this weekend's trip is for relaxation and rest. The President is scheduled to return to Washington Sunday night or Monday morning for conferences with Kissinger, who is expected home by then, on the Middle East and on plans for the projected Moscow summit meeting next month.

When Warren was asked if his criticism of terrorism was aimed at the Israeli retaliation as well as at the Arab guerrilla attack on the school, he replied that it was directed "at all acts of terrorism and violence."

Before yesterday's retaliatory attacks, the President sent a telegram to Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir expressing "sorrow at the

tragic loss of life of so many of Israel's children at Maalot."

"Mrs. Nixon and I, along with all Americans, grieve with you and the parents and schoolmates of those who died," the President said.

Earlier, the President conferred with his chief legislative lieutenant, William E. Timmons, which led reporters to ask Warren whether Timmons had advised the President on how the House would be expected to vote on impeachment.

Replying that the White House has made no head count, Warren said "the primary reason is that there has been no definition of the charges upon which a possible bill of impeachment would be based."

"So, quite logically, no responsible member of the House of Representatives could make a decision lacking any charge and also lacking any evidence."

When Warren was asked for comment on the sentencing of former White House aide Dwight L. Chapin, convicted on a charge of perjury, he said, "The President feels a personal concern for Dwight Chapin, who he knows as a fine young man, and for Dwight's fine young family."

Warren, however, refused to comment on former Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst's plea of guilty to a misdemeanor yesterday. Warren said the case was still in the courts and he was not commenting.