Office of the White House Press Secretary (New York, New York)

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I have today decided to redefine and broaden the function and responsibility of my Domestic Council. I have asked Nelson Rockefeller to serve in the capacity of Vice Chairman of the Council.

To assist me in carrying out my responsibilities for domestic policy formulation within a broad conceptual framework. I want the Domestic Council to undertake the following responsibilities:

- -- Assessing national needs and identifying alternative ways of meeting them;
- -- Providing rapid reponse to Presidential needs for policy advice;
- -- Coordinating the establishment of national priorities for the allocation of available resources:
- -- Maintaining a continuous policy review of on-going programs, and
- -- Proposing reforms as needed.

Because of the complexity and interrelationship of domestic policies and programs I believe the broadest perspectives must be utilized in the Domestic Council's deliberations. This is why I have asked the Vice President to serve as Vice Chairman of the Council and to oversee its work.

To provide for full coordination of the work of the Domestic Council with other policy bodies, L. William Seidman, Executive Director of my Economic Policy Board, and Frank G. Zarb, Executive Director of my Energy Resources Council, will be members of the Domestic Council.

I am also announcing my intention to appoint James M. Cannon as Executive Director of the Domestic Council and Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs. Richard L. Dunham will be Deputy Director of the Domestic Council. I expect them to work closely with the Vice President in the operations of the Domestic Council.