

Kissinger Giving Papers To Library of Congress

By Don Oberdorfer

Washington Post Staff Writer

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger has found a permanent home in the Library of Congress for most of his records of his years in high office and has begun to assemble a staff to help him work on them after Jan. 20.

Kissinger's donation of his papers to the library, announced yesterday, guarantees him or someone designated by him control over scholarly access to the papers for 25 years or five years after his death, whichever is later. The announcement came six days after the bulk of his papers—17 four-drawer file cabinets—were removed from the State Department and taken under guard to the Library of Congress, according to officials.

Among documents that will not be going to the Capitol Hill repository

are the secretarial notes of his telephone conversations, which Kissinger has claimed as "personal" under an opinion he obtained in January from the State Department legal adviser. Officials said the Justice Department has also issued an opinion granting Kissinger personal rights to the telephone data.

Lawrence S. Eagleburger, Kissinger's executive assistant, said "we haven't faced the question" of where the telephone records will be kept, though he said they will not be in the Library of Congress. Neither Eagleburger or other sources could estimate the volume of the phone records.

Peter Rodman of the National Security Council staff, a research assistant and speechwriter for Kissinger since

See KISSINGER, A6, Col. 1

KISSINGER, From A1

1969 and before that a student of his at Harvard University, said he has agreed to be a full-time member of a "Kissinger office" to be established here after the Jan. 20 inaugural.

Rosemary Niehuss, a National Security Council staff member who has worked on Middle East affairs, has been approached as a potential employee but no final decision has been made, Rodman confirmed. The "Kissinger office" may be quite small—perhaps only two or three people to aid Kissinger in writing his memoirs and other activities yet to be determined, according to Rodman.

The State Department announcement said Kissinger had donated "a collection of papers relating to his years in government service and to earlier periods of his life" as a gift to the nation. No tax deduction is involved, spokesman Robert L. Funseth said. The collection is in two parts—personal papers Kissinger wishes to include, and copies of government papers he worked on or reviewed during his service.

Six State Department record-keepers worked for about a week making sure that a record copy is retained in the department's central file of all government documents Kissinger sent last week to the Library of Congress. This is necessary to ensure the continuity of foreign policy information for the Carter administration.

Recent Secretaries of State have left their office file at the State Department, where they could refer to it later under special arrangements. But 27 earlier Secretaries of State, the last one being Cordell Hull (1933-1944), donated their papers to the Library of Congress.

Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin called the Kissinger papers "a great resource" and said they are "probably the most important collection of papers concerning American

foreign policy that exist in this century." Boorstin said he had initiated the proposal that Kissinger deposit his papers at the library and "it didn't take much persuasion."

Boorstin said the library would make available space to Kissinger and a research assistant to use the documents, presumably for memoir writing.

Until the Kissinger papers are opened to the public 25 years or more from now, access will require an appropriate security clearance and the permission of Kissinger as well as permission from the U.S. department or agency that originated the paper, the State Department announcement said. These restrictions are consistent with those imposed by several past Secretaries of State, library officials said.