KAREN On Friday

Len Garment, Bud McFarlane's lawyer, had an all-day meeting, beginning at 8 o'clock, with Richard Nixon last Friday in the Nixon office at Federal Plaza. During the break, the former president's secretary placed a call for Len to Barbara Walters at ABC News. When she came on the line, the former president himself picked up the phone and said: "This is Mr. Garment's confidential secretary. He's just finishing a call to Rome and will be with you in a moment." When Len came to the phone, la Barbara was very impressed. "You're getting up in the world with a confidential secretary," she told Len. He asked whether she recognized the voice. "No, but it's a more impressive voice than yours, Len." Then he told her: "That was Richard Nixon. See, I'm doing all right. Nixon is placing my calls." But he wouldn't talk about speculation that he and Mr. Nixon were discussing Iran arms and Bud McFarlane during their all-day meeting.

Carolyn Deaver was surprised Saturday evening at a private birthday dinner orchestrated by Mike at their home in Northwest. Mike teamed with Charlie Wick on the piano. Close pals Nancy Reynolds, Jim and Susan Baker, and Bill and Buffy Cafritz shared in the celebration. Bill, who broke his hip skiing, is still hobbling on crutches. No long-distance slopes for him for a while.

Iraq appears to be grooming a new ambassador to Washington. Gen. Sadig Shaban, the minister of tourism who has been named ambassador-undesignated, is in foreign-ambassador training. Tourism is down in Iraq, after all; almost nobody is buying those cozy little "weekend-in-Basra" packages. The general is a protégé of the president, and would be one of the youngest members of the diplomatic corps. He's a close friend of



Adnan Khashoggi

the current ambassador, the artful and clever Nizar Hamdoon, who has been here only two years.

Adnan Khashoggi continues to be a topic of conversation around town. His airplane may be repossessed, but one thing absolutely no one can take away from him is his Hindu swami. The Saudi Arabian financier and the very rich sultan of Brunei were once close friends. Following a falling-out, Adnan latched onto His Holiness Shri Chandra Swami Jee Maharaj, the sultan's very rich, 250-pound spiritual leader, who says he's a healer, too. The swami, according to insiders, has patched up the relationship between the two wealthy Moslems, paving the way for current dealings between the two. The swami and the sultan, insiders say, were the source of much of the money put up by the two Canadian investors — real estate developer Walter Miller and accountant Donald Fraser — in the Iran arms deal. The Canadian businessmen, acting as money managers for the S&S, actually advanced the money for the arms deal, say pals, and set up bank accounts in the Cayman Islands and elsewhere. It was Adnan who introduced the swami, who by the way speaks no English, to Liz Taylor.

If you're celebrating Stu Spencer's 60th birthday Feb. 20 at the Capital Hilton (aren't we all?), bring your checkbook, but leave your tux and sequins home. Frumpy Washingtonians are welcome. According to the invitation, polyester is the preferred dress for the $100-a-person evening. Consultant Joe Canzeri, who's masterminding the bash, has lined up Tom Brokaw as master of ceremonies, and an impressive list of names on the invitation. President Reagan, George Bush, Jerry Ford, Charlie Wick and even Bob Strauss are on the honorary committee. The long list of honorary chairmen includes Jim Baker, Dick Cheney, Mike Deaver, Liddy Dole and Hamilton Jordan.

— Karen Feld