

WASHINGTON (UPI) —

Jimmy Carter drew praise today for his knowledge of federal finances from President Ford's budget director as the President-elect began a series of briefings with top administration officials.

Carter met with James Lynn for one hour at Blair House, across the street from the White House. He arrived Sunday night from Plains, Ga., for his first meeting with Ford since their Oct. 22 debate in Williamsburg, Va. The meeting was scheduled for 3:30 p.m. EST.

Carter got an early start on the first of his two days of meetings with administration officials and congressional leaders by eating breakfast with his wife, Rosalynn, then talking with his staffers.

Vice President-elect Walter

Mondale arrived shortly before 9 to sit in on the briefings.

Carter first met with Mary King, one of his key campaign officials in Washington, who is involved in presenting names of potential women candidates for top positions in the new administration.

Lynn then arrived to brief

Carter on Ford's forthcoming budget, which will be presented Congress in early January. After the session with Lynn, Carter discussed Pentagon matters with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. Gen. Lewis Allen, director of the

National Security Agency, and  
Richard Shriver, director of the

Office of Telecommunications,  
also sat in on the session.

Carter was meeting with his  
official guests in the study on  
the second floor of Blair House,  
where all important visitors  
stay when in Washington.

No specific agenda was  
established for the Carter-Ford  
meeting, according to a White

House spokesman.

The meeting with Ford was  
next on the agenda, followed by  
a session with Federal Reserve  
Chairman Arthur Burns, who  
Carter once hinted he would  
ask to resign. Carter later said,  
however, it was likely he would  
not ask Burns to step down  
from the sensitive post.