Moscow Asserts Nixon Cancelled Seat on 747

The Soviet press said yesterday that former President Richard M. Nixon had booked and then canceled a seat on the South Korean Boeing 747 shot down by the Russians, but the report was denied by a spokesman for Mr. Nixon.

The Soviet report, quoting a West German magazine, was carried by the Government press agency Tass.

Mr. Nixon’s spokesman, Nicholas Ruwe, said, “At no time was he booked on that flight or any other flight to Seoul.”

The Sept. 8 issue of the West German mass-circulation magazine Quick said, in recounting the airliner incident, that Mr. Nixon had been booked in seat B-2 in first class, near the seat of Representative Larry P. McDonald, Democrat of Georgia, who died along with 268 other people when the plane went down in the Sea of Japan.

“Nixon should have been on the flight but canceled it,” Quick said.