Republicans Say Row Prolongs Viet War

By Richard L. Lyons Washington Post Staff Writer

said yesterday the Democratic content to sit back and watch dispute over Vietnam "is Democrats fight among themprolonging the war." They selves. Their statement yestercalled on President Johnson to day, coming on the heels of the disavow dissenters in his long Senate debate on a larger Party to end confusion.

House GOP leader Gerald R. remind anyone was wasn't lis-Ford (Mich.) called a news tening that the Democrats are conference to read a state-ment drafted by the House Ford has said and Republicans Policy Commit-ed yesterday that Republicans

tee. It began:

"The deep division within litical issue of Vietnam. the Democratic Party over He noted that Republicans American policy in Vietnam is in both houses have been prolonging the war, under-unanimous in support of the mining the morale of our extra funds. fighting men and encouraging "The American people may the Communist aggressor." It make it an issue," said Ford. went on to blame doubting or "If it becomes a political isdissenting Democrats with con- sue it will be because of the fusing people at home and deep division in the Demoabroad and causing the ad-cratic Party. I think this is ministration to "dodge and what will disturb the people." shift" in its policy statements. Rep. John J. Rhodes (R-

Republicans had been rel-charge.

House Republican leaders atively quiet about Vietnam, military debate for Vietnam, Eight Republicans led by apparently was intended to

> Ford has said and repeatshould not try to make a po-

The Republicans called on Ariz.), chairman of the pol-the President to "take com- icy committee which drafted mand of his Party." Until the the statement, twice said: "We Administration and majority don't intend to tell Mr. John-party speaks with a clear sin-son how to run his war." Quesgle voice, they said, "the divi-tioned about this Rhodes said sive debate will continue, the he had not intended to coin confusion will grow, and a a phrase "Johnson's war," but peaceful solution will elude meant that as Commander in Chief the President is in