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Mr. Agnew and Shades of the Past

It was Mr. Harriman as our Ambassador at Moscow who told the Polish Committee of National Liberation that the United States would not oppose Russian wishes on the Polish question—which effectively doomed any chance for the freedom of Poland, which of course was why the war had begun. A month after returning to the United States from his wartime chores in Moscow, Mr. Harriman was the grateful beneficiary of two fine thoroughbred horses—compliments of J. V. Stalin.

—Vice President Agnew, at an Ohio Republican Dinner, June 20, 1970.

In ordinary, reasoned discourse, one does not put one sentence directly after another unless one wishes to convey or imply some relationship between the two. So what the Vice President appears to be saying here, without being held accountable for it, is that Mr. W. Averell Harriman sold out Poland to the Communists and was repaid by the gift of two horses from Stalin. There are words for this — smear, innuendo, character assassination — and when it is done in a way so as to impugn patriotism and imply "softness" on communism in order to discredit and destroy a political opponent, there is an even uglier word which comes to us out of the torment of the early 1950's: McCarthyism.

All this by way of explaining why we are devoting an inordinate amount of space on this page to the Vice President's Cleveland speech last weekend. It was not, in one sense, any different from others of his speeches. That is to say, it was roughly partisan, needlessly divisive, and delivered on an occasion dedicated to raising money for the Republican Party. Usually these orations get the modest attention they deserve. But the fact remains that the Vice President of the United States is delivering them and some people are hearing them. So that when they deal, not with the iniquities of the news media or the snobbishness of the Eastern Seaboard, but with serious matters of public policy—race relations, the revolt of the youth, or in this case, the Vietnam war—they have to be taken seriously, as considered expressions of administration sentiment. So that is why we intend to dwell at some length on the Vice

President's Cleveland speech—because he made it, and because it is about the Vietnam war, and because it is, in a word, McCarthyite. Not just here and there, but throughout. That is its central thread—that patriotism is not, as one might suppose, love of country and allegiance to it, but unquestioning support for the particular policy of a particular administration; that it is ignoble, not to say cowardly, for a government official to change his mind, to conclude that his government's policy is wrong, and to say so out loud; that it is dishonorable, not to say disloyal, to speak out against the President or his policy when American troops are engaged in combat in a war—even though one is speaking out with a view to hastening their disengagement.

All this is insinuated, of course, in Mr. Agnew's the *summertime* soldiers and *sunshine* patriots. And don't dare say. But it's all there in Mr. Agnew's carefully wrought assault against Mr. Harriman and Senator Fulbright and Senator Kennedy and Clark Clifford and Cyrus Vance and John Lindsay, the *summertime* soldiers and *sunshine* patriots. And there is no way to deal with it except at length, given the nature of the technique; the half-truth, the selective quotation, the innuendo, the omission of background essential to honest understanding, the distortions of time-frames, the sly juxtaposition of essentially unrelated facts — these things take a bit of sorting out and we do not pretend to a comprehensive effort here. But a part of the text appearing elsewhere on this page will give you some feeling for the technique and while space limitations obliged us to omit two sections equally relevant to our discussion (along with an unrelated section on Cambodia), one of these is a recapitulation of Senator Edward Kennedy's Vietnam recommendations in the summer of 1968, which are well known. The other comprises equally familiar quotations from Senator Fulbright—his argument for the Tonkin resolution at the time it was adopted and a lengthy passage from an article he published in 1961 in the Cornell Law Quarterly in which he was more than a little gung-ho for the primacy of executive (as distinct from congressional) authority in the making and carrying out of foreign policy. The latter of change. In relation to Senator Fulbright, on the Tonkin resolution Mr. Agnew does violence to the

time frame in which he spoke, he implies that Senator Fulbright changed his views in reaction to a Republican administration—when in fact the change occurred no later than 1965—and that specifically he did so out of cowardice and the most base personal/political impulses, reacting one way “when they weren’t “staking out a claim to the nearest lifeboat.” This combination of stark, timeless, distorted excerpt or episode and running comment or personal slur to “explain” it, is the stuff of the Vice President’s attack:

“inveterate politicians tacking to the prevailing winds . . . individuals now trying, through copious writings and speakings — to cover their tracks . . . late-blooming opportunist, who clambered aboard the rolling bandwagon . . . anxious campaign to reinstate himself in the good graces of his old friends . . . unmistakable sting of envy and the aroma of sour grapes . . . in every great diplomatic conference that turned out to be a loss for the West and freedom, one can find the unmistakable footprints of W. Averell Harriman . . . down Mr. Harriman’s highway [the Ho Chi Minh Trail] have come half a million North Vietnamese troops to bring death to thousands of Americans and hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese.”

So much for the mortar in Mr. Agnew’s edifice. Consider, by way of illustration, some of the bricks:

Item: Returning briefly to those throughbred horses. Mr. Harriman’s story is that while he was

watching a film of the Soviet Victory Celebration with Stalin, he took note of a particularly handsome horse in the parade and was promptly offered the horse as a gift; he used it while in Moscow and when it later arrived unexpectedly in Washington, he asked the advice of the State Department. On being told the proper form was to respond with a gift of equivalent value, he sent Stalin a Jo Davidson bust of Franklin D. Roosevelt. That this could have had any relation to the tragic fate of Poland, or that Mr. Harriman was acting as anything more than an ambassador representing government policy, or that he was the architect of Yalta (or Hehran or Cairo, either) reflects such towering ignorance of the principal figures or the primary forces at work at the time that it is not worth arguing about; Mr. Harriman’s role in sounding the first alarms about Russia’s postwar intentions and ambitions is too well known.

Much the same can be said about the part he played later in the 1962 Geneva accords; he negotiated them on behalf of the Kennedy administration and while they have worked very badly this was not because that administration was blind to the possibility that Laos neutrality might be vio-

lated by the North Vietnamese; the treaty specifically commits Hanoi not to use Laos as a conduit to South Vietnam. It was because North Vietnam chose to violate these terms and because nobody, including the leaders of the present administration, has yet figured out a way to force compliance, short of an unacceptable involvement of American combat forces in Laos. That, of course, is the problem now and we will not find a way out of it by pretending that George Meany could have struck a better deal.

Item: Mr. Agnew is pleased to picture “the great patriot” Secretary Clifford “protesting” against the concept of enemy sanctuaries in vigorous terms” in 1968, and then calling Mr. Nixon’s Cambodian invasion a “reckless decision” in 1970. The obvious inference is that Clifford expeditiously switched course. The facts: Mr. Clifford was responding in his August, 1968, press conference to a question about the relative casualties, as between American and South Vietnamese forces, *within South Vietnam*. He prefaced the paragraph quoted by Mr. Agnew with a reference to “the strategy we have been following” (i.e., search and destroy missions in War Zone C and other South Vietnamese sanctuary areas). In other words he was not talking about Cambodia in any sense and was, in fact, a staunch opponent, in the Johnson administration councils, of incursions across the Cambodian frontier.

Item: While Mr. Agnew’s distaste for Mr. Harriman has been displayed in the past, his inclusion of Mr. Cyrus Vance in the “pair of deuces” which we allegedly played against Hanoi’s “aces” in Paris is inexplicable, the more so when you consider the astonishingly uncontroversial record of this remarkable man at Defense, helping out in riot situations at home, dealing with tough international problems such as Cyprus and the Dominican revolt. Gen. Earle Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, once called him “the finest public servant I have ever known”; after taking office, President Nixon asked him to stay on in Paris for as long as he possibly could to work with Ambassador Lodge as liaison with the President. Mr. Agnew calls him a “failure”—one of the “dandies of the old school tie”. . . the men who were bluffed, raised, called, whipped and cleaned out by the enemy . . .”

Item: It is apparently not going to be possible to explain the facts of the 1968 bombing halt to the Vice President in a way that will dissuade him from using that event as a club against anybody he feels like hitting at any particular time. At one point he invokes the bombing halt in relation to Senator Kennedy’s recommendations for a way out of the war—suggesting that President Nixon did it, just as he has done everything that Senator Kennedy had proposed. But this brings him into

quick collision with another passage in which he contends that it was Mr. Harriman and Mr. Vance who really did it—who “succeeded in booting away our greatest military trump . . . for a mess of porridge.”

In fact, the bombing was stopped in all but the strip of North Vietnam just above the Demilitarized Zone by Lyndon Johnson, in March, 1968, producing the first preliminary Paris talks. It was ended completely in October, 1968, in return for an agreement to begin substantive talks in November and an understanding, not to be publicly acknowledged, that the North Vietnamese would not violate the DMZ or shell major cities. Since then, this shelling has largely subsided, our casualty rates have dropped markedly, especially in the northern provinces of South Vietnam, and it has been possible, because of reduced infiltration in the north, to remove a significant number of American troops from I Corps. And the November talks would almost certainly have begun on schedule had we been able to deliver our own partners, the suddenly recalcitrant Saigon government. Some “porridge”—or even pottage as far as that goes.

Enough. There are obviously some lessons to be learned from all this, not the least of which is that, in terms of substance alone, the Vice President cannot be ignored when he talks about Vietnam. He has all but repudiated the terms of the agreement that are the basis for the present Paris talks. Is that policy? At one point, in his zeal to demolish Senator Fulbright, he accused him of abandoning “America’s cause of a non-Communist future for Southeast Asia.” Is that now policy? It would be nice to know—and helpful to know how much of the rest of all this the administration is really prepared to stand behind.

bring us together climate but there is not an attempt on my part to polarize over such matters as race, creed or economic advantage. . . . This is a purely political polarization.

"We're trying to attract as many voters to the programs which we think are good for the country and I think this is positive polarization.

The point of President Nixon's call for unity in his inaugural address, said Agnew, "was that people of diverse political opinions could for the moment move away from purely partisan considerations."

The vice president offered little comment on prospects that the Soviet Union may be influenced by the United States to get the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong to accept President Nixon's cease-fire proposal of last night.

AGNEW WAS ASKED if Russia was being nudged to get the North Vietnamese to accept President Nixon's latest peace proposals and he declined to discuss the peace discussions, saying:

"I can't discuss a matter as sensitive as any behind the scenes diplomacy. I have made it a rule when I'm in the process of interviews to stay studiously away from questions which involve sensitive diplomatic negotiations.

"I want to make one thing perfectly clear," he said. "The fact that I have avoided this question should not be taken as evidence that this situation exists. I've got to be totally consistent and simply evade that question be-

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cause public discussion of these things impairs public progress where progress is possible."

Agnew said U.S.-Soviet relations continue to be "in depth" on all issues.

"Our contacts with the Soviet Union are in depth and of a continuing nature on every subject and we continue to try to maintain the closest kind of exchange of information and we're constantly probing for ways to relieve tensions all over the world."

THE VICE president said he sees a "hardening in at-

titude" of college administrators and faculty in cases of violent dissent.

By early next year, he said, "the bulk of students will become disgusted with this kind of conduct."

ASKED IF HE plans to meet with more student groups to talk over campus

situations, Agnew said he would "like to go to more campuses but the big problem is to be heard. The campuses are so immense."

He said he has "no intention of subjecting myself to thoughtless intellectual harassment."

Dissent in the country's universities, he said, is "not a developing problem but more of a receding problem."

AGNEW WAS asked if he sees a victory for Conservative James Buckley in his New York Senate race against liberal Republican Charles Goodell, whom Agnew has criticized severely.

The vice president stated he has ruled out supporting either Buckley or Democrat Richard Ottinger.

He called Goodell "truly the Christine Jorgensen of the Republican Party" and in a "unique category."

Goodell's "vicious attacks on his President and his ad-

ministration," said Agnew, were the cause for his criticism of the liberal, incumbent senator.

He said Goodell is lending aid to the radical leftists who are trying to undermine the country.

AGNEW MAINTAINED he has supported other GOP candidates who have disagreed with the Nixon administration but that Goodell went further in his anti-administration comments than any other.

"I think I've made it clear I think Sen. Goodell is unique. I have supported other candidates who have differences of opinion with the administration and who have voted against the administration out of their convictions.

"If you look at the Goodell thing, however, you will see that there has not been an intentional exacerbation for

private political gain of the individual of the relationship of the administration and the individual.

"IT'S HIS BAG to upbraid and disagree with the administration and I said in my judgment he's burned his Republican credentials because his attacks have been motivated out of conviction to use his adversary position with the administration to encourage personal support for people who are fighting the administration.

"This may be the last day I talk about Sen. Goodell," said the vice president. "I have a lot of other radical-liberals to take care of."

The vice president was asked about comments that he underwent a political transformation from moderate-liberal to conservative before he ran for his present office.

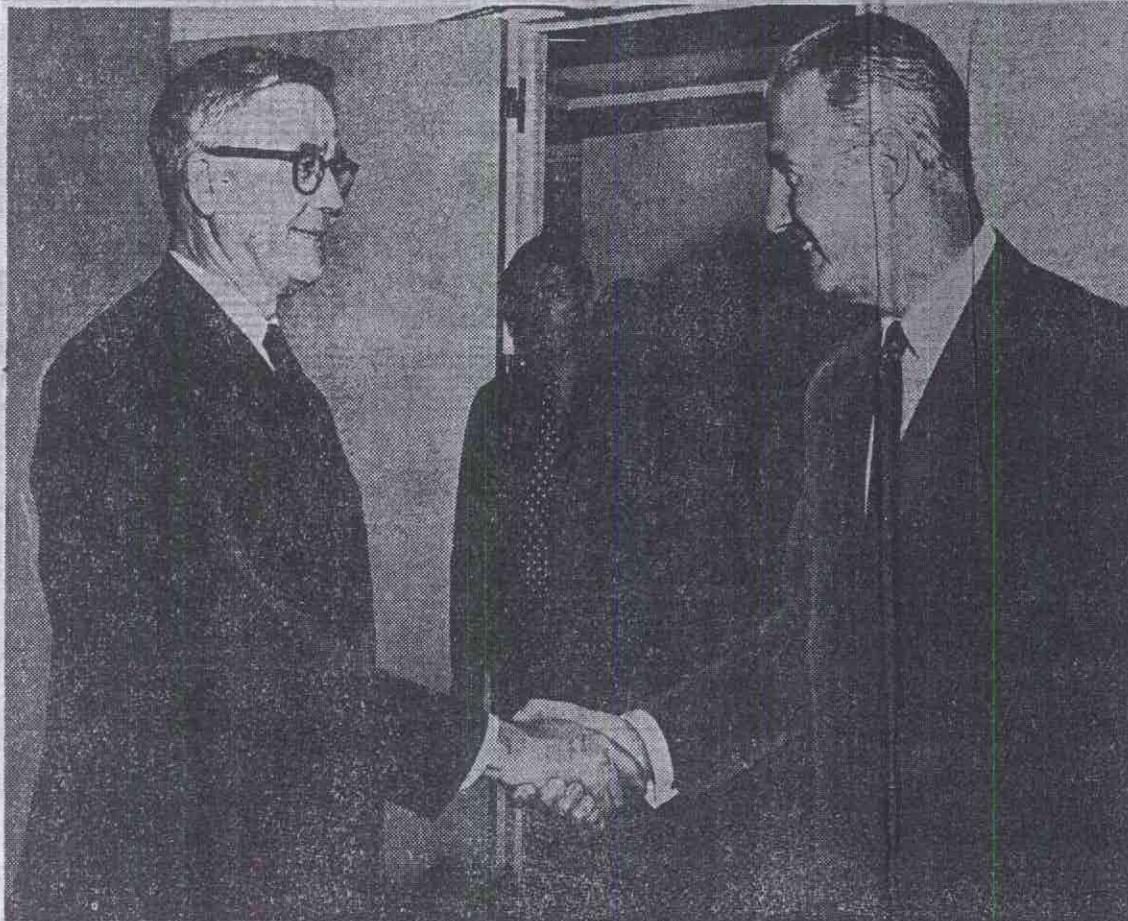
"WHEN I left the liberal philosophy was when it began to accept unlawful conduct," he responded. Agnew maintained that his political philosophy, however, has remained consistent.

The vice president says he has consistently worked — while in local office in Baltimore, as governor of Maryland and since then — to fight pollution, bring more Negroes into government positions and take similar action "generally characterized as liberal."

"It's not fair for people in the news media to make general impressions like this without being able to point to specific issues," he said, and "to come up with these broad characterizations without being able to come up with the facts."

HE DENIED the existence of a Southern political strategy by the Nixon administration. Nixon's votes "came from all over the country," said the vice president. "Our strategy is a national strategy."

He said the administration is attempting to solve crime problems with a 14-bill legislative package. Twelve of the bills have been "stymied" in Congress, he said.



VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO T. AGNEW shakes hands with States-Item Editor WALTER G. COWAN as he arrives for meeting with editors. —States-Item photo by James W. Guillot.

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM



VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO T. AGNEW talks to newsmen at a press conference at the Royal Orleans hotel after conferring with Southern Republican leaders. With him is CLARENCE E. WARNER, GOP chairman from Oklahoma, center, and CHARLES DE GRAVELLES, Louisiana's Republican chairman. —States-Item photo.

Speaking of school desegregation in Southern schools, Agnew said he is "encouraged" by his conversations yesterday with seven GOP state chairmen on their reports of school mixing in their areas.

"I WAS ENCOURAGED by the fact that even though there are some difficulties in sorting out the impact of certain court decisions, in certain areas in most of the states things were going along as well as could be expected," Agnew said.

"This doesn't mean that everybody's happy about it," he added.

Agnew said President Nixon had told him he would continue to follow a policy of firmness and understanding in applying desegregation to Southern school districts.

"We are pledged to achieving a racial balance but we are opposed and will continue to be opposed to such measures as busing where that busing interferes with the ability of an individual to receive a quality education," he declared.

"THE PRESIDENT is in favor of the neighborhood school concept and he feels as I do that to attack de facto desegregation in the South and leave it alone in the rest of the country is not a fair approach and moreover, de facto desegregation, even if overcome legislatively or judicially, will simply result in patterns of resegregation later on."

Speaking of new pushes for further desegregation, Agnew said: "We've got a lot of headaches on this problem yet to solve. The desegregation problem is fuzzy and the courts are still in the process of clarifying what they mean."

Agnew said cases now before the Supreme Court hopefully will result in a more "equitable construction" of the efforts being made in the South.

"I DON'T FIND a volatile, blind hostility to what's going on this year developing among Southerners that I saw seven or eight months ago," he said.

Asked if a recent Justice Department legal opinion fa-

voring maintaining "neighborhood schools" could be interpreted as an endorsement of freedom of choice desegregation, Agnew said:

"I suppose there are some that would construe this opinion to be leaning in this direction. I'm not sure it can. These questions of whether the Justice Department's opinion amounts to an acceptance of freedom of choice is a hard thing to come by, it's a legalistic argument. The Justice Department has a functional job of trying to smoothe the rough edges of applying the law and that's exactly what they're interested in here."

ACCORDING TO the vice president, one of the principal deterrents to crime is the "public stigma attached to the criminal."

This stigma is being "dulled and blurred," he said, by those who constantly attach political motives to criminal acts.

Agnew said the economic social and political problems of the cities have "a very high priority" in the administration's thinking.

BUT, HE SAID, "crime and other urban problems don't stop at the city line." Previous administrations, he said, had embarked on courses of action in which assistance was concentrated in the cities. The result was the creation of "federal enclaves" in the cities' cores where citizens established a "particular empathy" with federal officials.

A more beneficial system, said Agnew, would be to allow county and municipal officials more assistance in solving problems on a regional or metropolitan basis.

"The federal government has been trying to be 'Big Daddy' to the cities for too long," he commented. State and local governments should be given more encouragement to solve their problems, Agnew added, since they are the ones who know them best.

The vice president denied that his campaigning in Tennessee against Democratic Sen. Albert Gore was a result of Gore's voting against G. Harrold Carswell's nomination to the Supreme Court.

"SEN. GORE has a long record that fits him into the cat-

egory of a radical liberal," he stated. "He fits the definition very adequately. The Carswell matter was only one facet of it."

Speaking of the President's Commission on Pornography, he said he had not read the lengthy report recommending legalization of pornography for adults but said, "I deplore the dissent of the theatrical arts into a posture where they are totally repelling.

"I think it's wrong to assume that the Danish approach to this matter — that if you make pornography as commonplace as bacon and eggs nobody will listen to it — is a fallacy.

"YOUNG PEOPLE have in-

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tions and one of them is a sexual drive. It's very bad to take a young mind which doesn't have the balance of tense drives in many directions and subject it to this kind of material.

"We must protect our young people from being inundated with this kind of material without solicitation," he said. "Beyond that it becomes a matter for those people in the advertising and theatrical community to police themselves."

Agnew was asked if he saw any hope in the coastal states receiving a reasonable share from the revenues to compensate them for the special services which they render to the crewmen and members of their families who work on offshore oil rigs.

"YES, I SEE some hope of that sort of thing," he said. "I know this is a very touchy subject and the Gulf Coast case is unique and they resent comparisons with California where there are great disparities in the value of the land and the shoreline as opposed to the offshore assets. The administration is cognizant of these fears . . . and I know the Interior Department is well aware of the conflicts and will continue to work with the authorities to try to reach some reasonable solution."

Speaking of Louisiana Gov. John J. McKeithen and his senatorial ambitions, Agnew said:

"I've known the governor for some time as a fellow governor and he's a very interesting personality."

ON A HUMOROUS note Agnew was asked how he came up with his widely quoted "colorful phrases," particularly, "nattering nabobs of negativism."

"I'm not going to get into designating the authors of the phrases that I use," he answered. "I think of some of them, some of my speech writers think of some of them. I will have to take credit for some of the more widely publicized morsels in those speeches."

The vice president was



—AP WIREPHOTO.
PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON appears pleased with his efforts soon after he had finished delivering last night his nationwide television address in which he proposed a standstill cease-fire in Indochina.

asked if his third-place position in a national poll concerning "most admired" Americans increased the possibility of his being a future presidential candidate.

"No, because those polls change," he answered. "I may be the third most hated by the time the election comes around."

The vice president's limousine arrived at The Times-Picayune Publishing Corp. building at 10 a.m. He waved to newsmen and office workers before walking into the lobby, where he shook hands and exchanged brief remarks with Ashton Phelps, publisher of the States-Item and The Times-Picayune.

A crowd standing behind a lobby desk applauded and cheered as Agnew entered. Before going up to the newspapers' executive offices on the third floor, he shook hands with those in the lobby for about a minute.

SECRET SERVICE agents and local police were stationed on the building's three floors. Among White House staff members accompanying the vice president was his aide and speechwriting consultant, Patrick Buchanan.

From the newspaper build-

ing, the vice president left for the French Quarter and a lunch of shrimp Creole at Brennan's Restaurant. He was to depart this afternoon for a campaign appearance at Fort Smith, Ark.

Police barricades lined Royal Street along the block on which Brennan's is situated and Secret Service men who arrived three hours before the vice president's lunch time kept heavy security, barring reporters from the restaurant and the public from the downstairs area where Agnew lunched.

HIS RESERVATIONS were for noon but Agnew stopped at the Royal Orleans Hotel for one hour between his visit with newspaper editors and lunch.

He walked from the Royal Orleans to Brennan's and shook hands along the way, where a couple of hundred spectators gathered.

There were no pro or con greeting signs and only friendly handshakers appeared interested.

IN THE OUTSIDE patio of Brennan's, Secret Servicemen kept a luncheon vigil with several reserved tables near the vice president's indoor table.

Brennan's senior waiters served Agnew, who was accompanied by his long-time friend, William Helis.

The entire first floor area of the restaurant was reserved for his party.

Restaurant personnel promptly acknowledged that the vice president delayed his

schedule to dine at Brennan's, where he often visits on his trips to New Orleans.

ON THE DRAFT Agnew said "it would not be reasonable to move into a volunteer Army arrangement at this time."

"I think that once we have the war in Vietnam over, we then have the door open to establish a truly professional Army and end the draft. I don't think it's reasonable . . . we can move into implementation of a volunteer Army immediately."

The meeting with States-Item and The Times-Picayune newsmen followed a conference held by the vice president yesterday afternoon with

Southern Republican party leaders.

After meeting with GOP chairmen from seven Southern states, Agnew told newsmen last night he was "encouraged" by the chairmen's reports on prospects for Republican congressional victories in the region in the Nov. 3 general election.

"The state chairmen fall into two categories," said the vice president, "very optimistic and very pessimistic. But I'm encouraged by what I've heard from them."

AGNEW SAID he is supporting Robert E. Lee, the Republican contender for incumbent U.S. Rep. Hale Boggs' Second Congressional District seat.

"The fact that I'm here means I'm endorsing him," he said. "Since I'm in Louisiana and Mr. Lee is a candidate, I am endorsing him."

Asked if he includes Boggs among the "obstructionists" he has criticized since taking office, the vice president said, "I can't say that Hale Boggs is a radical-liberal." Agnew added that "anybody can be beat" and Boggs is "vulnerable."

ACCORDING TO the vice president, the "overriding issue" in the upcoming congressional elections will be that of having in Congress legislators who will support President Nixon and his policies.

Agnew said the "destructive" policies of "radical-liberalism" also will be an issue. "The radical-liberals are not carrying the demands or the wishes of the American people," he stated.

Concerning desegregation, the vice president said President Nixon is bound by his constitutional oath to continue desegregation but added, "The President is 100 per cent against arbitrary busing to achieve racial balance when such is not in accord with local school systems."

The vice president said the principal points of his discussions with GOP leaders yesterday concerned Senate and gubernatorial races and the political climate in the area.

Those state chairmen meeting with Agnew were Charles de Gravelles of Louisiana, William M. Steger of Texas,

Odell Pollard of Arkansas, Clarence E. Warner of Oklahoma, James E. Holshouser of North Carolina, J. Richard Bennett of Alabama and Ray A. Harris of South Carolina.

AGNEW SAID Mississippi's GOP state chairman was not asked because that state is not among those in which he plans to campaign.

According to the vice president, the GOP leaders viewed desegregation, the economy and law enforcement as the main issues in the region.

Twenty-one law enforcement officers have been killed in violent incidents during the year, said Agnew. "The people are tired of hearing unwarranted sympathy for the criminal. They'd like to hear some for the victims."

THE VICE president said he will campaign for incumbent Florida Gov. Claude Kirk, for Florida GOP Senate nominee William C. Cramer and all other GOP candidates in key contests in the South.

Asked which are the admin-

istration's target areas for the election, he answered, "Everything is a target area. But we have concentrated on those areas where we have the best chances of winning."

Agnew said he cannot actively campaign for Lee against Boggs because of "a time problem."

THE PRIMARY reason for his New Orleans visit, he said, was his meeting today with newspaper editors.

The vice president was asked if he believes Alabama Gov. George Wallace is losing support as a result of the administration's Southern policies. "Gov. Wallace was not a subject of intense discussion at the meeting with the state chairmen," he answered.

The vice president dined at Antoine's last night, shortly after President Nixon delivered his 8 p.m. television address calling for a cease-fire in Indochina.

HE RETURNED to his Royal Orleans Hotel suite shortly before 11 p.m. The Royal Orleans was the scene of the state chairmen's meeting and of the news briefing.

The vice president arrived at New Orleans International Airport at 1:40 p.m. yester-

day.

In an impromptu meeting with reporters at the airport, Agnew criticized Republican Sen. Charles Goodell of New York, who is seeking re-election.

"I'M NOT READY to admit that Sen. Goodell is proud of his Republican credentials," said Agnew. "It seems to me he may have publicly burned them not too long ago, in the current draft card style."

Goodell's campaign is the subject of some disagreement among GOP officials. New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller said yesterday he had tried to get President Nixon to keep Agnew out of the New York Senate race.

Asked at the airport if the President supports his views about Goodell, the vice president stated, "That's something the President will have to answer. Let me put it this way—you notice I'm still talking."

PRESENT TO greet Agnew at the airport were Lee; David C. Treen, a Republican opponent of Boggs in two previous elections; Ben C. Tole-dano, the GOP mayoral candidate in the last April's general election; State Rep. James R. Sutterfield of New Orleans; Dr. Ray Lee, a congressional candidate from Mississippi's Third District, and Ed Griffith of Mobile, Ala., Southern regional director of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

While the vice president was meeting with state chairmen, Secret Service men confiscated a shotgun from a woman attorney from Florida in the Royal Orleans lobby. The unidentified lawyer told the agents she was en route to Florida from a hunting trip in Texas.

The woman was given a receipt for the firearm. She said she did not know the vice president was in the hotel.