Public Backs

Washington Post Staff Writer

Vice President Agnew, por-trayed as the lightning rod of the Nixon administration was the Nixon administration was plugged in to new thunder-bolts of public controversy yesterday over his speech at-tacking the three television networks.

Telephone switchboards at the White House and the TV stations were alive with public reaction-lopsidedly in his

reaction—lopsidedly in his favor. Even the young people gathered along the Mall for a Yippie march were preoccupied with Agnew and the speech.

One senator praised his "rare judgment and wisdom." (George Murphy, R-Calif.), while another compared the Vice President to Nazi storm-troopers (Vance) Hartke, Dtroopers (Vance)Hartke, D-Ind.).

One congressman dismissed the speech as more "bumble-footing" (Rep. John Moss, D-Calif.); but a colleague praised it for raising "a subject that long, desperately needed to be order out into the open"
(Rep. Samuel Stratton, D.
N.Y.).
"The Vice President," proclaimed Sen. Paul Fannin (R-

Ariz.) "has applied the prod to a Sacred Cow and the bellowing is being heard across the land."

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Broadside attack baffles network teams. Page A7.