

McGovern Again Assailed On War, Amnesty by Agnew

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LONDON, Ky., Sept. 23—

Vice President Spiro Agnew continued to assail George McGovern's views on amnesty and the Vietnam war today, as he wound up a tour of the border Southern States where Republican hopes for control of the Senate rest.

At an airport rally in this staunchly Republican town, Agnew accused the Democratic presidential nominee of advocating "headlong global retreat" and asserted that "the principle that America will help the nations . . . who are under assault by an aggressor . . . is as valid now as it was on the day the first American soldier set foot on Vietnamese soil."

There was a certain irony in Agnew's spirited defense of American involvement in Vietnam here, for he shared the stage with Sen. John Sherman Cooper (R-Ky.), co-sponsor of many end-the-war amendments, and Rep. Tim Lee Carter (R-Ky.), who has labeled Vietnam "the worst mistake we have ever made."

But Agnew was cheered by the crowd of 2,000 when he ridiculed McGovern for "agonizing over the continuation of this war" and condemned the South Dakota senator for proposing amnesty for draft evaders.

Cooper told reporters later that his constituents "know

my views and they know the President's views, and they seem to tolerate us both."

Agnew came to this southeastern Kentucky town, 120 miles from Louisville, to bolster the campaign of former Gov. Louie B. Nunn (R) for the Senate seat the retiring Cooper is vacating.

Later tonight, he was scheduled to appear at a \$100-a-plate fund-raising dinner in Louisville for Nunn, who is opposed by State Sen. Walter (Dee) Huddleston (D).

Since leaving Washington Thursday, Agnew has visited four states—Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia and Kentucky—all with key Senate races. In all four, the Nixon-Agnew ticket is rated well ahead, and the Vice President's main effort appeared to be to spread coattails for the senatorial aspirants.

All four of the Republicans—incumbent Sen. Howard Baker Jr. of Tennessee, broadcaster Jesse Helms in North Carolina, Rep. William L. Scott in Virginia and Nunn here—are staunchly conservative. With two of the seats now held by Democrats and one being relinquished by the liberal Republican Cooper, victories by the four aspirants could go a long way toward giving the President a real of "ideological" Senate majority in his second term.

Baker is favored to hold his seat, and Nunn is expected to

succeed Cooper, largely because of the presidential coattails. Helms and Scott are regarded by Republican strategists as being in uphill fights.

In his speech here, Agnew contended there was "no historical precedent" for the kind of "general postwar amnesty for all draft dodgers" he said McGovern had proposed.

He said such a policy would encourage draft-dodging in future wars and "anger," "Af- front," and "bring special grief" to the "millions of Americans," who have served in the armed services, been wounded or lost relatives in the war.

As he has on every day of this swing, Agnew criticized McGovern's contention that American bombing of Indo- china is abhorrent.

"I do not question Senator McGovern's patriotism," the Vice President said, "but I do question his judgment. I do not question that he is compassionate, but I have great difficulty in understanding the selectivity of his compassion. It seems to be reserved for chance victims of military-tar- geted U.S. bombs but denied the thousands of victims of in- tentional criminal aggression by the North Vietnamese war machine."

"The McGovern message with regard to the use of American airpower," Agnew said, "is shame on America."

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