

McCarthy Flays Nixon, Hoover; Humphrey Praised by Connally

Post 4/22/68
The Senator

Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) tromped on Richard M. Nixon, J. Edgar Hoover and Dean Rusk yesterday as he worked his way softly through a televised interview.

Appearing on ABC's "Issues and Answers," the Democratic presidential hopeful said FBI Director Hoover should be retired and Secretary of State Dean Rusk fired. He deplored the fact that the "old Nixon" had surfaced in the Republican presidential candidate's statement that Democratic promises to spend billions in the ghettos was "dishonest."

For more than 15 years Nixon had angered Democrats with a use of words that they complained hit below the belt. The new Nixon of this year seemed more relaxed in his speech. But said McCarthy:

"This is a case again where, about the time you would like to think that Mr. Nixon has come around to speaking rather straight, you know, and using the language as he should, he then goes back to words like 'dishonest.'"

"Now if he said it is unwise or foolish,"

See McCARTHY, A2, Col. 5

The Governor

Gov. John B. Connally of Texas said yesterday that he hasn't decided whom to support for the Democratic presidential nomination and then delivered what could serve as a nominating speech for Vice President Humphrey.

Appearing on the NBC television program "Meet the Press," Connally said he wouldn't rule out entirely the possibility that progress toward peace in Vietnam or a deadlocked convention could produce a draft for his close friend, President Johnson, who has taken himself out of the race.

So Connally is keeping his options open, but everything the conservative Governor said in professing present neutrality indicated his preference for Humphrey and his opposition to Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.). He said nothing about the other contender, Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.), who was his choice for the Vice Presidency over Humphrey in 1964.

While denying any knowledge that

See CONNALLY, A2, Col. 3

McCarthy Assails Nixon and Hoover

McCarthy, From AI continued McCarthy, "but he doesn't say things like that, he says it is dishonest. I don't think it is dishonest and I don't think it is unwise or impractical."

McCarthy noted that New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, a possible Nixon opponent, has also called for pumping \$15 billion a year more into the cities. "I think it is well within the potential of our economy and society to provide," said McCarthy. "I think it is necessary to do it."

Of the FBI's Hoover, McCarthy said that a "police agency in a democracy ought not to be kept under the control largely of one man to a point where it develops to a kind of fief, really, which is somewhat beyond criticism and outside judgment. It is not a question of J. Edgar Hoover, particularly, but rather the policy of having someone like that stay in office as long as he has . . . I would be prepared to say since he is the Director, I think the time



has come that he should be replaced."

Hoover is 73, beyond the unusual mandatory Government retirement age, and stays on by presidential order. The first statement John F. Kennedy issued after learning he had been elected President in 1960 was an announcement the Hoover and CIA director Allen Dulles would be retained in office. McCarthy would like to put the Central Intelligence Agency on a tighter rein also.

McCarthy repeatedly has called for Rusk's replacement, maintaining he is too hawkish to help along mean-

ingful negotiations in Vietnam. Yesterday, McCarthy suggested Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), for one, as a suitable successor to Rusk.

McCarthy said he believes President Johnson sincerely wants peace in Vietnam, but that the question is what terms the Administration here would accept. He said Rusk has indicated he was prepared to negotiate only surrender by the Vietcong, which McCarthy thinks is not the point at issue.

"If we are not prepared to talk about a new government," said McCarthy, "a coalition or a fusion or whatever you wish to call it, a new government for South Vietnam which would incorporate the National Liberation Front (Vietcong) somehow, be acceptable to it in some way, then I don't think you have got much to negotiate about."

Asked if that would not be giving away the United States' final bargaining position at the outset, McCarthy said it would not. The degree of fusion would still be open for negotiation, he said.

South Vietnam should be told, he said, that the United States will begin

withdrawing its forces "unless they are willing at this time to participate in some kind of settlement."

McCarthy said the dispute over where to hold preliminary negotiation talks had fallen into a needless "numbers game" with each side proposing sites rejected by the other.

McCarthy said the Hanoi has diplomatic representation at only five of the 15 sites proposed by the United States for talks. He said he felt the United States could have said Warsaw, where Hanoi and the United States is represented but South Vietnam is not, "is all right with us. Then if the other countries that might have been parties to the discussion objected, then we could have looked to some other site." The United States has resisted Hanoi's proposal to meet at Warsaw.