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At University Preventive Detention Provision

By PETER EGLICK

The deputy attorney general of the United States, speaking informally following a Law School-sponsored colloquium Tuesday night, called the newly elected Congress "a political, democrat Congress that will sit on its can for two years and do nothing."

The remark followed an evening program in which Richard Kleindienst, the deputy attorney general and Harvard Law School professor Alan M. Dershowitz debated the pros and cons of preventive detention

before a capacity crowd of 375 in the Annenberg School Auditorium.

The discussion centered around a provision in the District of Columbia Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970, which authorizes pretrial detention of defendants without bail if the judge decides that the release of the accused would endanger "the safety of any other person or the community."

The bill's provisions are limited to cases where a defendant is charged with a "serious crime" such as rob-

bbery, rape burglary, arson, or the sale of drugs. The Nixon Administration has sent to Congress a proposal which would make the pretrial detention aspects of the District of Columbia bill applicable in the entire federal judicial system.

Following a brief description of the legal issues involved in which he termed the preventive detention measure "a significant departure in bail law," Law School professor Louis Schwartz, the program's moderator, introduced Kleindienst as a "Phi Beta



DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL Richard Kleindienst and Professor Alan Dershowitz plan next rebuttals as Professor Louis Schwartz moderates pretrial detention debate at a well-attended University Law School forum.

Law School Forum *Harangued*

Kappa graduate of Harvard University and a maker of Presidents."

Kleindienst opened his defense of the pretrial detention measure by alluding to the "chronic recidivism" (commission of a crime while on bail) that plagues the nation's judicial system and claiming that the pretrial detention system provided "a reasonable and constitutional due process solution to a genuine social problem." He explained that the detention system "eliminated the greatest hypocrisies of the Bail Reform Act of 1966" which allows a