

Can't Back LBJ, Gen. Gavin Says

Retired Lt. Gen. **Walter M. Gavin**, former United States ambassador to France, has resigned from the Massachusetts Democratic Advisory Council because he strongly opposes the Vietnam involvement and so simply cannot support President Johnson for reelection in 1964.

The council of leading business and professional people was created in January to advise Democratic state legislators on policy and programs.

"I strongly believe that council should be ready to support President Johnson," Gavin said in an interview.

Gavin's resignation plan was announced in a letter to the council's chairman, Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

Obviously, our domestic programs are being undertaken in the poverty area. And the Vietnam war, because of the Vietnam war, of the money we are pouring in there.

Gavin said he gave his resignation "by letter to state Democratic Chairman Lester Pearson" who said he "accepted his resignation."

Gavin, 60, is chief executive officer of Arthur D. Little Inc., a research firm in Cambridge. He retired from the Army in 1954 and was appointed ambassador to France in 1951 by the late President John F. Kennedy.

Gavin was one of 18 persons appointed to the council which was organized at the request of Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

Gavin said he discussed his resignation with the council's chairman, Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.