

Mitchell Lays Distrust in U.S. to LBJ

11/12/69

By John P. MacKenzie

Washington Post Staff Writer

Attorney General John N. Mitchell charged last night that political "deception" by the Johnson administration is the reason so many Americans distrust the federal government.

Striking the most partisan notes of his 10 months in office, Mitchell said there is a national "disease of cynicism" thanks to Johnson administration promises that never were kept.

Mitchell, the trusted political adviser to President Nixon, made the charge in a speech prepared for a \$100-a-plate fund-raising dinner in Milwaukee for the Republican Party of Wisconsin.

He said the Nixon administration, "purposely low key" in its public utterances in contrast to its predecessors, was on its way to restoring public confidence and would "restore civil tranquility to the streets of this nation."

See MITCHELL, A9 Col. 1

Mitchell Lays Distrust to LBJ Era

MITCHELL, From A1

Outlining administration plans for coping with antiwar demonstrations and crime, Mitchell avoided repetition of past criticism of Congress for failing to enact his crime leg-

islation and trained his guns on what he called "the deception which was practiced over the last few years."

"The prior administration," he said, "attempted to solve problems through the illusion of words—through the projection of succeeding images of impossible dreams which were replaced by more impossible dreams when previous commitments could not be met."

As a result, "the poor and the black who had relied on Utopian promises . . . now distrust the government's ability to act on their behalf," Mitchell said. Middle-class families who counted on the government to control the economy "found themselves caught in increasing inflation" and the nation's youth "reject the established political process and . . . turn to violence and confrontation."

Mitchell said the government would honor the right of protesters to congregate and petition peacefully in Washington this weekend but he warned:

"The foreign policy of this government cannot—and will not—be formulated in the streets of Washington or in any other street of this nation. . . . The negative cynicism of demonstrators cannot be allowed to replace the affirma-

tive program of those in government charged with conducting our foreign policy and carrying out our national security."

Mitchell said the administration would achieve social and economic progress through "the methods which I think this Midwest audience understands better than most. We believe in common sense, in hard work and in quiet diligence . . . We believe that the extremists on both ends of the spectrum will be isolated by the great majority of Americans."

Instead of rapping Congress as he had in recent speeches, Mitchell said he hoped Congress would approve his full

request for \$275 million this year to help states and cities find new crime-fighting techniques.

He called for passage of a bill to broaden the power of federal agents to search for narcotics and he praised his Department's role in the "highly successful" Operation Intercept clampdown on marijuana smuggling along the Mexican border.

"As this administration's anti-crime program moves forward through Congress and into operation, the mood of the nation will change from cynicism to optimism, and confidence in the law will be restored," Mitchell concluded.

Bank Robber Seized in Ruse

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 11

—A bank bandit who with two hostages was led today by two deputies as a motel bartender to a cocktail lounge cus-

tomerman was seized there he held up a the Merchant's Trust Co. and fled with manager and two hostages.

He led him to the lounge on Indian- Sgt. David Sheriff's deputy in a jacket behind the lounge.

A detective at a duties and when they a

