

Public Misled
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On War by LBJ,
Unruh Charges

By BILL BOYARSKY

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Democratic leader Jesse M. Unruh, the Humphrey campaign's honorary vice chairman in California, said today President Johnson has "consistently and categorically misled the American people about the progress of the war" in Vietnam.

Unruh, who was California presidential campaign chairman for the late New York Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, said "no government can survive if it is built on a pyramid of falsehoods and deception.

"More than signing pieces of legislation, more than appointment of individuals to high governmental positions, more than anything else—the greatest responsibility of a president is to keep faith with the people," Unruh said.

HIS REMARKS were prepared for a rally at Los Angeles State College on the third day of his statewide tour on behalf of Democratic State Assembly candidates.

He said the nation was "told we were winning the war when in fact we were stalemated. We were told the Viet Cong was in desperate straits when in fact the enemy was stronger than ever."

"And we were told the Saigon

government had rid itself of corruption when in fact it was as corrupt as it had ever been."

UNRUH SAID there is "little confidence in our government's position" at the Paris peace talks and added that "the first priority item" for a next president "should be a pledge to tell the truth to the American people."

Nowhere in the advance excerpts of his remarks given to newsmen was there a mention of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

After Kennedy's assassination, Unruh backed Minnesota Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy's drive for the Democratic presidential nomination. He switched to Humphrey after the national convention.

Unruh's aim in criticizing Johnson, his aides said, was to convince Californians that the Democratic party in their state doesn't support all of the policies of the national Democratic party.

In that way, they said, he hopes to help Democratic assembly candidates win in a state where recent public opinion polls show Humphrey trailing Republican presidential candidate Richard M. Nixon.