Excerpts from a statement by Sen. George D. Aiken (R-Vt.):

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY—and many of its candidates for the presidential nomination next year is struggling for a rational statement of policy toward American involvement in Vietnam . . . Indeed, there is almost as much divergence of view among prominent Republicans as among prominent Democrats.

The fact is, however, the Republicans do not know the details of the advice the President receives from his Secretaries of State and Defense. We do not know what advice he receives from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or what intelligence he gets from the CIA.

What we do know is that half a million Americans are in Vietnam and that under present policy, this number must be greatly increased.

We know, as the Mansfield report stated 18 months ago, that we are in "open-ended" conflict, with the end not yet in sight.

We know that the Vietnam conflict has split this country to a depth and with an intensity not experienced within this century.

I know the President wants to bring this conflict to an honorable end. So do I.

But the President predicates peace on the capitulation of the enemy, and that solution seems far in the distance, if at all.

As time passes, I come more and more to believe that the present Administration cannot achieve an honorable peace in Vietnam.

This Administration is too bound by its own vague criterion, its own predictions, its own predilections, its own conceptions and emotional commitments to see the interest of the Nation except in terms of its own survival as the government in power.

The significance for the Republican Party of this brief analysis is that American policy in Asia requires a new look—a fresh appraisal which can only come from a Republican Administration.