

AGNEW CAUTIONS ABOUT REPRESSION

Says Excesses Could Help Enemies of America

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PHOENIX, Ariz., Oct. 9—Vice President Agnew voiced a note of caution tonight about repression of "political terrorists," warning that it could play into the hands of those who want to destroy the American system.

"Just as we are stopping inflation without recession, so also we will stop political violence without constricting the freedom of Americans," the Vice President told Arizona Republicans. "We must not fall into the snare of those who would destroy our country."

Mr. Agnew developing a new and major theme of his campaign for election of a Republican Congress, said there were "little groups of intellectual bully boys" on the nation's college campuses who were attempting to infect other youths with the "virus of political violence."

Even more contemptible, he said, they had the support of "a small group of collaborative adults who encourage the destroyers—some of their teachers, various confidants, their financiers and other co-conspirators."

Recalls 'Brown Shirts'

The violent few have escalated their tactics from threats and intimidation, Mr. Agnew charged. "Having failed to sell the American people their program for radical change, they have taken to the streets, like the pre-Nazi brown shirts in Germany four decades ago," he said.

The Vice President said, "We have tolerated too much of this." But he cautioned in the text of a speech prepared for delivery at a Republican rally in the Del Webb Town House, that repression could feed the flames of anarchy.

Mr. Agnew did not name those he accused of seeking a violent revolution in the United States. But he made it clear that he felt his principal campaign targets, the "radical liberals" in the Congressional Democratic majority and elsewhere, had waited too long to speak out against violence.

Now, he said, "they compound their errors" by calling upon radicals to stop violent acts on the ground that they would bring on a wave of repression.

The Vice President sought to make his point by quoting from a speech last month by Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts. "Violence feeds on itself," he quoted. "It breeds reaction and repression. Invoked for the best of causes, it produces counter-violence for the worst of causes."

Although well-intentioned, such statements are naive in crediting radicals with idealistic motives, Mr. Agnew said. He added:

"Time and time again the radicals have told us that this system of ours must first be demolished before their brand of progress can be achieved. Their plan, plainly and often stated, is simply this: That violence will lead us to repress, that our repression will then radicalize the moderates, and this in turn will bring on revolution."

'Short-Term Goal'

"Repression, then, is the short-term goal of our political terrorists today," Mr. Agnew said. "Repression for them is success. So as we move to set our house in order, let us not forget what this country stands for."

What is needed, Mr. Agnew said, is a genuine rededication to "the revolutionary movement that the founding fathers began two centuries ago—a movement devoted to the elevation of mind and reason—a movement that reaffirmed moral values and rigorous intellectual inquiry."

The only legislative solution offered by Mr. Agnew to halt what he called "the beginning of terror" was President Nixon's proposal to set stiff penalties for the illegal use of explosives.

Congress appears to have gained, belatedly, a sense of urgency about the legislation, Mr. Agnew said. But he complained, "I wish some of these radical liberals in Congress were as vocal about the bombings in the United States as they have been about the bombings in Southeast Asia."

Before flying here for his evening appearance, the Vice President will appear at a Republican rally of Republicans at the Tulsa, Okla., Assembly Center.

In that speech, Mr. Agnew criticized Democrats who have been quoted variously as urging Americans to agitate for social change. Among his targets was Senator Edmund S. Muskie, the Maine Democrat who is seeking re-election this year.

When Senator Muskie said, in 1968, that Americans had "the God-given right to kick no doubt was on advocating physical violence, Mr. Agnew said. But he added that "it is a short step from kicking Government around to kicking police around."