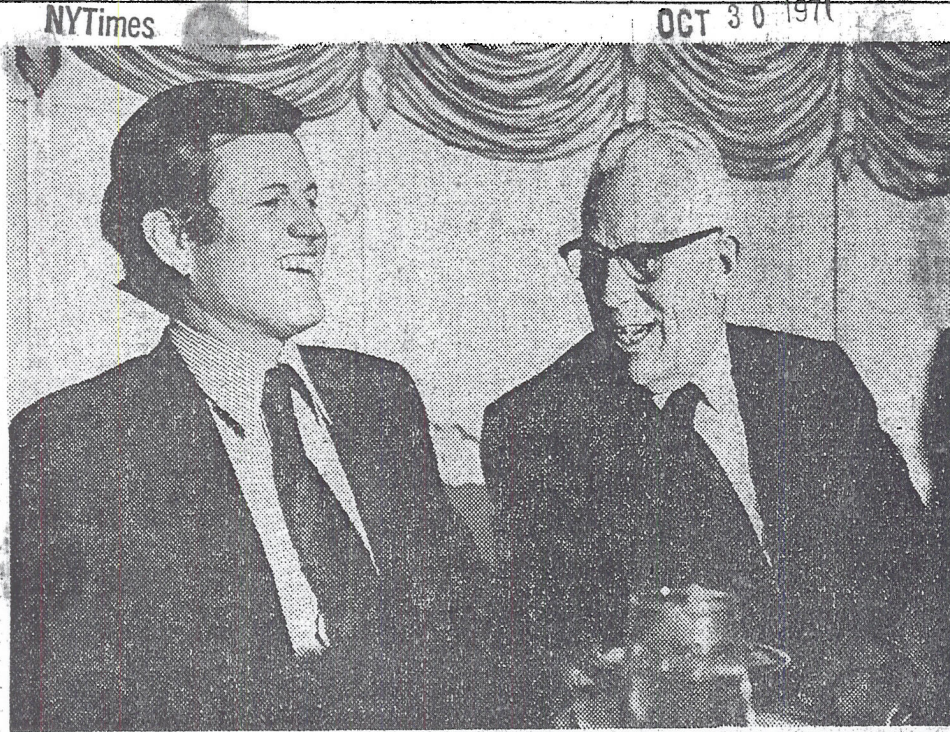


(See also statement by George Bush, in reaction to story below; story is by Henry Banner, NYTimes 1 Nov 71, this file.)



The New York Times/Neal Boenzi

AT CONFERENCE ON CHINA: Senator Edward M. Kennedy and former Chief Justice Earl Warren at Fund for Peace meeting. Mr. Kennedy left for Washington after giving views.

## Kennedy Blames Nixon for U.N. Attacks

By KATHLEEN TELTSCH

Senator Edward M. Kennedy accused President Nixon yesterday of lack of leadership on the issue of China in the United Nations and of playing on "the worst instincts in his party and the nation."

In the strongest reaction to come from a major Democratic figure since Monday's vote to expel the Nationalists in favor of the mainland Chinese, Senator Kennedy attacked the President for not speaking out promptly to the American people to ease the shock.

The Massachusetts Senator charged that the President's failure to act had aroused passions against the United Nations that could topple it, had jeopardized continued Senate support for American foreign aid and had even "tarnished" Mr. Nixon's planned trip to Peking.

The Senator's speech was strongly applauded by 2,500 at a luncheon during an all-day convocation on the United States and China arranged by the Fund for Peace, a nonprofit

educational group. After the speech, Mr. Kennedy flew back to Washington for the Senate vote on foreign aid, including future spending for United Nations undertakings. Senator Kennedy also appeared to be among the first leading figures in the Democratic party to question Mr. Nixon's good faith regarding his plans to visit Peking. He told his audience that an answer was needed as to whether the trip "is to be a fixed star on the road to peace instead of a passing comet in an American election year."

He said that "we shall never know the full considerations that prompted the timing of the second Kissinger mission, at a juncture so absolutely critical for the U.N. issue." This was a reference to the visit last week by Henry A. Kissinger, the President's adviser

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on national security. "Perhaps the timing was a coincidence, and perhaps not," Mr. Kennedy said. "We shall probably never know whether this was a gesture, exacted by Peking as the price of the President's coming visit." Senator Kennedy, regarded as a possible Democratic candidate for President, pointedly noted in his speech that the expulsion of Taiwan by the General Assembly had been castigated by Senators and Representatives, liberals and conservatives alike, and that "Vice President Agnew gave vent to his own special brand of right-wing rage."

He said that although Mr. Nixon in recent weeks had made a number of television appearances to announce good news in foreign and domestic policy, "he failed us this week when the need was greatest."

"Why," he went on, "it is fair to ask, why did President Nixon not take the obvious opportunity to go again before the nation to ease the shock, to explain the vote, and to call for understanding by our people?"

### Leadership 'Was Not There'

For a full day, "While the storm clouds gather," the President stood aloof, Senator Kennedy said, and declared: "The leadership we need was not there."

The Senator complained also that when the President's comments came two days later—through the White House press secretary, Ronald L. Ziegler—the President offered no soothing words but instead a "petty condemnation" of the conduct of the pro-Peking group on the Assembly floor because they reacted with too much "glee." "We had the spectacle of our President playing to the worst instincts in his party and the nation, pouring fresh fuel upon the fire, inciting further passions against the United Nations, abdicating his responsibilities at the very time when the need was clearest."

### Finds an Abdication

"We see the damage all around us," Senator Kennedy declared.

"Know-nothings in America give vent to tirades that would topple the foundation of the United Nations if they could."

"All we see now is retaliation and retrenchment. When men in high positions abdicate their true responsibility it fails to others to fill the gap," he declared. The remark was greeted with applause.

Senator Kennedy said that Mr. Nixon should have reassured the American people that regardless of the vote, America's commitment to and friendship with Taiwan was unimpaired. He also said the vote was not a defeat for the people of Taiwan and "certainly not the end of the world for Chiang Kai-shek and his Government."

However, he observed that "new horizons" had been opened and that Peking could assume a role in disarmament and other United Nations efforts. He also said that no permanent settlement in Indochina could be reached without agreement by China.