

Nixon Admits Fund Violation

Examiner News Services

SAN CLEMENTE—President Nixon announced today administration moves in both the Vietnam war and the domestic political campaign:

• He said there will be no pre-election halt to bombing and mining in North Vietnam and stated such activities will continue until there is substantial progress in negotiations.

• At an outdoor press conference at the Western White House he conceded there had been some "technical violations" of the new campaign law in management of GOP campaign funds, but he said the Democratic side is guilty of similar breaches.

It was a reference to the bugging incident at Democratic Headquarters in Washington's Watergate complex last June.

The President earlier announced he would withdraw 12,000 troops from Vietnam over the next three months, reducing the force level to 27,000 men by Dec. 1.

522,000 Out

Today's action brought to 522,000 the number of men Nixon has pulled out of Vietnam since he began troop withdrawals in 1969.

The withdrawal, announced by Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler, will be at the rate of 4000 men per month. Ziegler said another statement on force levels would be made before Dec. 1, but that statement "will be based on conditions at that time."

In the political arena, Nixon contended election fund laws have been violated by both parties and declared the Republican campaign would make every effort to account for \$350,000 in questioned contributions.

"We want the air cleared as soon as possible," the President said.

Won't Specify

He declined to specify the nature of the violations and said it would be apparent during coming weeks that Democrats also were guilty.

Nixon's new troop withdrawal rate is slightly lower than the current 5000-man rate.

"Unless there is progress on the negotiating front which is substantial," he said, "there will be no reduction of the bombing of North Vietnam and there

will be no lifting of the mining."

Nixon said he was not going "to play election politics" with troop cuts. He said his offer of total withdrawal still stands but is conditional on his prisoner of war policy — that so long as there are prisoners and men missing in action, there will be American troops in Vietnam.

No Prediction

He rejected any idea that the bombing of North Vietnam might be stopped before the Nov. 7 election, and declined to predict when the war would end.

"We have made every reasonable negotiating proposal we can," he said.

He said he was satisfied that the South Vietnamese have the capability to prevent the North Vietnamese from over-running the South.

On the bugging incident, he said his own investigation showed no one on the White House staff was involved in the bugging of Democratic headquarters.

He said he would not accept Democratic nominee George McGovern's challenge to debate but would conduct a vigorous yet limited campaign that he hoped would give him a clear ma-

ajority for re-election.

U.S. forces in South Vietnam have declined steadily from a peak of 543,000 in April 1969 — three months after Nixon took office.

Although troop withdrawals have continued since Hanoi and the Viet Cong launched a major offensive last February, cutbacks have been more than offset by increases in U.S. air and naval forces waging warfare from Thailand and Guam and from the Seventh Fleet offshore.

The American presence in these sectors has doubled to better than 49,000 in Thailand, 39,000 with the Seventh Fleet and 20,000 on Guam.