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McGovern Cites GOP 'Espionage'

Fort Worth

George McGovern told a street corner rally yesterday that Republican espionage and subversion of the Democrats threaten the freedom and rights of all Americans.

With a neon sign across the street flashing a temperature reading of 85 degrees, McGovern stepped up his attack against the Republicans on an issue he hopes will anger the Democrats and rally them around his underdog candidacy.

The speech was McGovern's fourth of his present campaign visit to Texas where he said he has a good chance to win 26 electoral votes. His crowd of about 8000 was about as large as one drawn here a few weeks ago by Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

TRENDS

McGovern said he gets no pleasure from going on the attack, "but there are certain trends that have been set in motion by this present Administration because they jeopardize the freedom and constitutional rights on

which our system of Government depends."

The friendly crowd boomed lustily when he attacked John D. Erhlichman, President Nixon's top domestic aide, for dismissing in a television interview Sunday allegations of Republican espionage by saying that "political pranks" were traditional in America.

McGovern said it was a serious matter when seven agents of the Administration were caught in the Democratic National Headquarters "with their burglar tools, with their rubber gloves on and with their wiretap equipment."

McGovern has been hitting the espionage charge in every campaign speech. His aides said they found a swelling response to the Senator's charges and his contention that Mr. Nixon is trying to win by playing on fear.

McGovern was noisily cheered on those issues across Texas, Monday. In Houston, 20,000 mostly young people crowded a nighttime rally in an amphitheater and exhausted the supply of barbeque they had paid for. In San Antonio, 10,000 persons who waited two and a half hours for the candidate, cheered his charges of corruption.

RANG

Before the Democratic dominated Texas Legislature warm applause rang out when McGovern charged the Nixon administration of adopting a "strategy of fear."

"When you ask about education for your children," he said, "it replies: Fear the black man. When you seek peace abroad and reasoned discourse at home, it replies: Fear the young and the dissenter. When you demand jobs and expanded opportunities, it replies, fear the poor."

Lame duck Democratic Governor Preston Smith said he had never seen so enthusiastic a response by the legislators in 22 years in State government.

But Democrats seeking office November 7 still shunned McGovern.

Neither Barefoot Sanders, candidate for the United States Senate, nor Dolph Briscoe, candidate for Governor, appeared with McGovern at any of his Texas stops.

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