

Ted Against Shriver Bid

WASHINGTON — Sargent Shriver was selected as the Democratic vice presidential nominee this week over the private objections of his brother-in-law Edward Kennedy.

Kennedy tried unsuccessfully to discourage presidential candidate George McGovern from offering Shriver the second spot, even though he himself turned down the job twice.

"SHRIVER DOESN'T come into this with Kennedy's full blessing," a congressional source close to both Kennedy and Shriver confided. "Kennedy told McGovern he didn't think it was a good idea."

Publicly, the Kennedy family has always presented a united front. Indeed, Kennedy dutifully told reporters he thought his relative was a good choice.

But Shriver and his wife, Eunice, have been somewhat estranged from the rest of the Kennedy family since 1968, when Shriver refused to give up an appointment by President Johnson as Ambassador to France in order to campaign for the late Sen. Robert Kennedy for President.

Tension between Shriver and Ted Kennedy that year was so high that Kennedy flatly vetoed Shriver for second spot when presidential nominee Hubert Humphrey asked how he felt about the possibility. "The family won't support that," Kennedy told Humphrey, and so Shriver was crossed off Humphrey's list.

This time, however, Kennedy was not

really in a position to exercise that kind of family veto.

Despite Shriver's new step up the power ladder, Kennedy still remains the family heir-apparent. Only he bears the name.

If the McGovern-Shriver ticket loses to President Nixon in November, Kennedy is in a perfect position to step in and assume leadership of what will then be a badly shattered party. McGovern will be discredited, and by association so will Shriver.

If the McGovern-Shriver ticket wins, Kennedy is not any worse off than if Shriver were not Vice President.

The family rivalry may never surface publicly during the campaign. It is in Kennedy's political interest to be a good sport and he was already committed to campaign for McGovern anyway.

BUT SHRIVER'S ADDITION to the ticket seems unlikely to produce the sort of all-out organizational and financial effort that the family has made for other Kennedy campaigns. It is doubtful, for instance, that brother-in-law Steve Smith, the family's behind-scenes political manager, and other Kennedy political advisers will unduly exert themselves.

Nor does it seem probable that Shriver will be allowed to tap the traditional rich money sources which have financed past Kennedy campaigns (the Kennedys seldom put up any of their own millions, but they have been talented at getting money from others).