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SF Examiner 'Politics' in McG TV Questions

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — The White House submitted six or seven questions and suggested they be asked of George McGovern when he appeared on ABC-TV's "Issues and Answers" interview program, ABC Washington news bureau chief John Lynch said yesterday.

Lynch said he could recall no similar effort to suggest questions but he said he did not consider the incident a form of White House pressure.

Nixon Afraid?

McGovern expressed mild objections.

"I think this is really an interesting development here, that I should come on a program to be interviewed and have questions submitted by the White House," he said.

"Isn't it interesting that the President himself is afraid, apparently, to come on this program with me, or to come on any other television program and raise his own questions . . . He knows that I would have some questions for him."

After his television appearance he called the procedure "A new precedent in politics" and said President

Nixon "doesn't want to answer questions from anyone."

Denies Hitler Link

One of the White House's questions, dealing with McGovern's "harsh rhetoric" and alleging he had "likened" Nixon to Adolf Hitler, was asked on the air by ABC newsman Frank Reynolds. He told McGovern and the TV audience the

source of the question.

McGovern denied comparing Nixon to Hitler but said Nixon's bombing policy had been the most "barbaric thing" since the days of Nazi Germany.

Rocci Fisch, assistant producer of "Issues and Answers," said he had telephoned Al Snyder at the White House to ask for a transcript of a television ap-

pearance Friday by John Connally Jr., chairman of Democrats for Nixon. Snyder is an assistant to Herbert Klein, White House communications director.

Fisch said Snyder replied, "There are some questions we'd be interested in hearing the senator's response to." Snyder sent the questions, typed on a plain piece of paper without a White House letterhead, along with the transcript.

Lynch declined to make the list of questions public. He said all dealt with events in the news. Lynch said he would have attached more importance to the incident if the questions "had come from a presidential aide."

He said persons frequently suggest questions to be asked when reporters are about to interview someone.