

War Critics Hit -- 'Double Standard'

Washington

Presidential communications director Herbert G. Klein yesterday accused congressional war critics of applying a "double standard" in denouncing administration war policy after "participating in an election where the President had a very clear mandate to proceed the way he has on Vietnam."

Klein said "some of the more irresponsible members" of Congress "have been critical in a way which could slow down" the U.S. peace effort. He called for "less rhetoric and more support in the Congress."

Klein also rapped war critics for not protesting "the great atrocities in this last year" committed by the North Vietnamese. "I don't see Ramsey Clark organiz-

ing a protest against that, or those who are shouting most in Congress," he said.

(Clark, former U.S. attorney general, has been active in protesting U.S. war policy.)

BOMBING

Asked if the U.S. might resume heavy bombing such as that took place over North Vietnam in December, Klein said, "I would not rule out any tactic that is necessary to protest American lives or to carry out the military objectives which are essential."

President Nixon's chief domestic adviser, John D. Ehrlichman, interviewed along with Klein on the NBC television program "Meet the Press," defended Mr. Nixon's failure to consult with Congress before launching the heavy bomb-

ing campaign.

Citing "President Truman at the time of the Korean conflict, at the time of the dropping of the (atomic) bomb," Ehrlichman said, "It is simply not appropriate for a President to do things by committee and I think that President Nixon finds himself in that situation."

TIMING

Klein added that "the President feels that he is fully accountable for negotiations and the key thing . . . is not whether you reveal the purpose at a given moment but whether you reveal it at all, and I assure you the President will discuss this fully at a time when it best suits that . . . gaining of peace."

Asked whether it might not have been possible for the President "to have got-



UPI Telephoto

JOHN EHRLICHMAN, HERBERT KLEIN
Just before they appeared on TV

ten Senator Mike Mansfield or Senator Hugh Scott or Speaker Carl Albert on the phone and talked to them" about the bombing, Ehrlichman said:

"Here again, it is a judg-

mental thing. It is a question whether that would add anything to the success of the negotiations and, after all, that is what we have to look at, the ultimate outcome of this."

In other remarks, the two White House aides said:

- The President "is still convinced that this country ought to be in the supersonic transport business" and the administration expects to ask for "a little seed money" in next year's budget for research and development on various problems associated with the SST.

- No one in the Nixon administration has been disciplined or removed from a job because of the allegations of sabotage or meddling in the Democratic presidential primary campaigns.

- Neither Ehrlichman nor Mr. Nixon knows the full story of the Watergate bugging case, although they remain satisfied, after an internal investigation, that no one on the White House staff was involved.

- Despite criticism of the press, proposals to make local stations responsible for the content of network television news, and the challenges to licenses of Washington Post-owned television stations in Florida, "there is no grand plan" for revenge against the news media.

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