

Demo Chief Hits Ford Statement

South Bend, Ind.

Democratic National Chairman Robert Strauss accused President Ford yesterday of reverting to "Nixon-Agnew" campaign tactics in his warning that election of Democratic "extremists" could jeopardize world peace.

Strauss called on Mr. Ford to retract the statement, made in a speech at Oklahoma City.

"It's reminiscent of the 1970 campaign efforts of President Nixon and Vice President Agnew," Strauss said at a meeting he was attending here. "The same type of rhetoric and the same sort of attempt to appeal to the baser instincts of the American people."

"It was rejected in 1970 and it will be rejected in 1974," he said.

"I'm saddened by President Ford's doing it," Strauss said. "I think the public had hoped — we all had hoped — Democrats, Republicans and Independents alike, for a higher standard of campaigning than we had in 1970 by the then-occupants of the White House."

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