

The President's Uphill Battle

Cleveland

President Ford charged yesterday that peace could be jeopardized "if we get the wrong kind of Congress" in this year's election.

In campaign speeches in Oklahoma and Ohio, the President also said a Democratic sweep could result in the election of "extremists" who might undermine the two-party system.

The President's uphill battle to salvage as much as possible for republican candidates became more desperate as he encountered new and discouraging odds in these two normally conservative states.

Former Ohio Republican Governor James A. Rhodes, the party's nominee for governor, who has criticized the President's call for an income tax surcharge, failed to show up for last night's rally, a snub of unusual proportions. A Rhodes spokesman said he had a previous campaign schedule in Batavia.

Earlier, in Oklahoma City, the President read a poll published in yesterday's Daily Oklahoman reporting that Republican candidates for governor and senator are substantially behind their Democratic opponents just two weeks before the voters go to the polls.

In his address before a Republican rally in Oklahoma City's convention hall, the President said he was "pleading with you to give America — not to me — a Congress" that will cooperate on domestic and foreign issues.

The hall was less than three-fourths full at the noon hour. Earlier, the President addressed a \$500 a plate fund-raising breakfast in Oklahoma City which 59 persons paid to attend.

The tepid receptions were in marked contrast to the enthusiastic welcome Mr. Ford received Monday in two Mexican cities he visited with Mexican President Luis Echeverria.



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PRESIDENT FORD AND OHIO SENATOR TAFT
The President received a WIN football in Cleveland

Last night three hundred persons paid \$500 each to hear Mr. Ford plead for a heavy Republican turnout in Ohio.

When press secretary Ron Nessen was asked for clarification of the President's comments about a "wrong kind of Congress," he told newsmen that Mr. Ford was thinking particularly of the continuing resolution . . . aid to Turkey."

The President vetoed two resolutions containing immediate bans on military aid to Turkey, and then accepted with "deep reservations" a measure which would postpone the cutoff until December 10 provided Turkey does not send more weapons to Cyprus or violate the cease-fire.

"I call on Republicans in Ohio and in the rest of the country to turn out to vote on November 5 like you never have before," he said. "Confound the doom sayers. Fool the pessimistic pollsters."

Mr. Ford said he understood some people "have lately been saying that my speeches are getting partisan — and that I am using the word 'Republican.' Well, they are right."

"I admit to being relatively restrained so far in this campaign," the President declared as he quoted Edmund Burke as saying there is "a limit at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue."

"We are now close to that point," he said.

In Oklahoma City, Mr. Ford met for 40 minutes with representatives of the nation's depressed cattle industry and promised, according to Nessen, to give serious consideration to reimposing import quotas on dairy products and possible beef by the end of the year.

"I'm concerned about the breach of bipartisanship on foreign policy," the President said.

"So I end my remarks

here today by pleading with you to give to America — not to me — a Congress that will be farsighted, visionary, imaginative and coopera-

tive, so that we can have peace abroad, so we can work on our problems at home."

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