

6 Urbanists Denounce Nixon Over War Spending

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By JACK ROSENTHAL

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WASHINGTON, May 10—Six prominent urbanists publicly denounced today the “dangerous” impact of what they called the President’s preoccupation with Southeast Asia on the crisis of the cities.

They said they did not believe the Administration understood the depth of disillusionment in universities and ghettos fostered by the President’s decision to send troops into Cambodia.

The six men, including two former high officials of the Johnson Administration, came to Washington late today to express their views to Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a former colleague and a counsellor to the President.

They said they could, in conscience, no longer offer formal or informal advice to the White House.

The Other Five

Charles M. Haar, a Harvard University law professor and associate director of the Harvard-Massachusetts Institute of Technology Joint Center for Urban Studies, said one purpose of the group’s action was to dramatize “the connection between the war and domestic spending requirements.”

“Unless Federal priorities are

Say His Preoccupation With Asia Leaves Cities’ Crisis ‘Dangerously Unmet’

realigned,” Mr. Haar said, “The crisis of the cities remains dangerously unmet.”

The five others are Robert C. Wood, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for a brief period, and Mr. Moynihan’s successor as director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies; William A. Doebele, Harvard professor of design; Bernard J. Frieden, M.I.T. professor of planning; Lee Rainwater, Harvard professor of sociology, and Alonzo S. Yerby, associate dean of Harvard’s school of public health.

Their action today followed a public break with the Administration by a group of Harvard foreign policy experts. That group met Friday with Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon’s chief national security aide, to express their disapproval of the Administration’s Southeast Asian policies.

Mr. Haar, a former Assistant Secretary of H.U.D., said that the urbanist group was concerned about “the President’s continued isolation from social problems at home and the Administration’s lack of attention to urban problems.”

He said the group has no complaint with Mr. Moynihan. “In fact, part of our purpose is to strengthen his voice and his hand in the Administration—to call attention to the effects of apparent indifference to city needs,” he said.

The earlier meeting with Mr. Kissinger was attended by 12 Harvard professors who had, variously, advised four Presidents.

One of the participants, Thomas C. Schelling, said they described the President’s decision to send American troops into Cambodia as “inexcusably and unjustifiably wrong.” It left them “scared about the next decision.”

Though long-time colleagues and friends of Mr. Kissinger, “several of us said we are now so absolutely dismayed that we are through collaborating with the executive branch,” Mr. Schelling said.

When the group objected to Mr. Kissinger fell largely silent. “He said that a year from now we would go along with the President’s decision, and little else,” Mr. Schelling said.

Mr. Schelling said he returned to Cambridge so discouraged that he intended now to begin a nationwide drive to raise “from \$100-million to a billion dollars” in contributions from working students for use in fall Congressional campaigns.