

WARREN PRAISES LOBBY FOR PEACE

Hails Lawyers' Bid to End
the War in Indochina

By RICHARD L. MADDEN

Former Chief Justice Earl Warren said last night that the war in Indochina "has brought to fever pitch our crisis, already heightened by racial tensions, crime, poverty, inflation and pollution of the environment."

Speaking to a convocation of New York City lawyers who are planning to lobby in Washington today for American withdrawal from Indochina, Mr. Warren said that "it seems strange when all Americans speak for peace, and most insist that we are seeking a negotiated peace and not a military victory, that we should be divided on whether we will end the war by stopping it or by escalating it."

"One would think," Mr. Warren declared, "that the death of 40,000 American boys, the wounding of 300,000 others, and the expenditure of more than \$100-billion in the past six years—along with the incredible and tragic devastation we have wrought on those we are trying to help—would force us now to reappraise promptly what our national interest in Indochina is and how we might best discharge our responsibilities there."

The audience of about 600 lawyers who heard Mr. Warren at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 42 West 44th Street, applauded loudly when he added, in an apparent reference to the Nixon Administration:

"One would also think that this reappraisal could better be stimulated by a vocal majority than a 'silent majority.'"

Praises 'Rebirth'

Mr. Warren, who does not plan to participate in the lawyers' lobbying trip today, praised the effort as a "rebirth" of lawyers' involvement

in public problems and said that the trip would be "an important step in bringing our children back to us with the knowledge that we do care for our country and for them and their future."

While not approving of "the excesses" of youth, or their elders, Mr. Warren said that "so long as youth carries the burden of the war while their elders seem in no hurry to end it, and, indeed, seem to profit financially from it, they have a right to complain; and as long as their elders are not responsive to their complaints, we may expect to have a generation gap that widens every day."

"The way to narrow that gap and eventually close it," he said, "is for the older generation to commit itself to the movement to restore youth to a life of peace which every mother has in her mind and heart for their children when they are born."

Mayor Lindsay, a frequent critic of the war in Indochina, also told the lawyers that the war "has done to America what no enemy has done for a hundred years—it has turned our land into a battlefield."

Seeks 'New Dialogue'

Referring to recent demonstrations by city construction workers, the Mayor said that "perhaps their demonstrations, in the end, will help us break through to a new dialogue in which we not only talk, but listen."

Mr. Lindsay said that the commitment to "a common country and common principles" could begin to be realized "by ending the controversy over the American flag."

"Together we live under it," he declared, "pledged to 'liberty and justice for all.' It stands for love of country—for our national ideals—for the right to protest a policy we believe deflects us from those ideals—and for the right of others to counterprotest."

The Mayor added: "The flag must not be an issue between Americans. The issue is the war—the war and what it is doing to the nation."

About 1,000 lawyers from the city—young and old—are planning to travel to Washington early this morning to meet with members of Congress and the Administration and to lobby against the war, according to the trip's sponsors, the Lawyers Committee for Effective Action to End the War and the Lawyers Convocation on Vietnam.

Convocation Interrupted

Among other speakers expressing support for the lobbying effort during the convocation were Francis T. Plimpton, president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York; Bernard Botein, former presiding justice of the Appellate Division, First Department; Eleanor Holmes Norton, chairman of the city Human Rights Commission, and Senator George S. McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota.

The convocation was interrupted at one point by a group of about 10 younger persons, calling themselves the Law Workers Collective, who read a statement calling the lobbying effort "hypocritical, inadequate, unresponsive and irrelevant." They said it was "hypocritical" to spend one day in Washington for peace "and 364 days representing corporate entities which profit from warmaking abroad and at home."