

A Serene GOP Countdown

By Peter Lisagor

MIAMI BEACH—(CDN)—Republicans, moving toward the serene renomination of the Nixon-Agnew ticket next week, are convinced they can hang a radical label on George S. McGovern.

The emerging GOP platform charges that the Democrats have been "seized by a radical clique which scorns our nation's past and would blight her future" while extolling the President's first term as a saga of exhilarating progress.

Minor platform battles are

being reconciled in a spirit of magnanimity.

"We can blow it only by feeling we have it wrapped up," said GOP National Chairman Robert Dole late yesterday, in a confident sum-up of the prevailing attitude here as delegates began to swarm into town.

The platform's preamble signals the nature of the campaign in calling upon "troubled friends of other political affiliations to join us in a new coalition of progress.

"Together let us reject the

New Left prescription for folly and build surely on the solid achievements of President Nixon's first term," the preamble said.

Portraying the GOP as custodian of a "peaceful, prospering, humane, strong and just" nation, the platform envisages a "bright tomorrow" in which Republicans will advance "in concert with millions of discerning Democrats and concerned independents who will not, and cannot, take part in the convulsive leftward lurch of the national Democratic Party."

The platform drafters, following Nixon's dictum that the choice this year will be the "most clear-cut in the century," say that voters must choose "between strength and weakness ... Between negotiating and begging with adversary nations ... between an expanding economy in which workers will prosper and a handout economy in which the idle live at ease."

It is a choice "between running our lives and letting others in a distant bureau-

—Turn to Page 2, Col. 1

Radical Label Ready

GOP Countdown Is Calm

—From Page 1

cracy run them ... between responsible fiscal policy and fiscal folly," according to the platform gospel.

"This year the choice is between moderate goals historically sought by both major parties and far-out goals of the far left," the platform asserts.

Jewish Vote

The platform reaches out toward Jewish voters with a strong re-affirmation of support for Israel, stresses a "new era of diplomacy" in which the President's goal

of a "full generation of peace" was fortified by his visits to Peking and Moscow, and reaffirms the President's "refusal to perform this act of betrayal" in acceding to Hanoi's terms for overthrowing the Saigon government.

McGovern's defense proposals, described as "meat-ax slashes," are "worse than misguided; they are dangerous," the platform contends. It also rejects all proposals to grant amnesty to "those who have broken the law by evading military service."

The platform clearly amounts to a blueprint of GOP campaign strategy, in which McGovern will be depicted as advocating radicalism and seeking to reduce the nation to "a second-class power."

War Impact Fear

But even as the party managers prepared for an orderly, smoothly-run, star-studded convention — including ex-baseball players conducting invocations and movie stars narrating films of the President and First Lady — there were suppressed fears about the impact of the war on voters.

There was also concern expressed about the bugging episode of the Democratic National Committee HQ and the stubborn inflation and joblessness that saddle an economy whose indicators show upward trends in almost every other respect.

But more than any other factor in these pre-convention hours, things simply are looking too good for many of the professionals, skeptical men by nature. And it worries them, but not enough to spoil their 1972 convention, which will be free of tension and surprise unless the President can pull a rabbit out of his hat on Vietnam.

That, they admit, would make next week's convention a political idyll, unknown in GOP ranks since the Golden Eisenhower years.

Platform Points

MIAMI BEACH (Fla.) — (AP) — Following are main points of the defense and foreign affairs sections of the platform that will be submitted to the Republican National Convention Tuesday:

- Full backing of President Nixon's terms for the Indochina war.
- No amnesty for draft dodgers and deserters.
- A strong defense establishment, rejecting deep cuts in aircraft and missile programs, naval strength and troops in Europe.
- An all-volunteer armed force and a goal of ending the draft by mid-1973.
- Continued help to Israel to prevent any military imbalance, and efforts to bring the contending Middle East states to the conference table.
- Followups to Nixon's efforts at improving relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, but also close cooperation with Taiwan, Japan and NATO allies.