

Lawmakers

To Boycott Inauguration

Washington

Some 165 members of Congress plan to boycott Saturday's inaugural ceremonies in public rejection of Nixon military and domestic policies, Representative Don Edwards (Dem-Calif.) said yesterday.

"We make a mistake if we underestimate the opposition" to Mr. Nixon in Congress and the nation, he said at a press conference called also to announce plans for an anti-war "inauguration of conscience" service Sunday. It will be attended by dozens of national religious and political figures at Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church here.

A spokesman for the staff of the liberal Democratic Study Group in the House said a letter signed by some members had been circulated encouraging others to attend a mass anti-war rally at the Washington Monument grounds instead of the inauguration. The rally, sponsored by the National Peace Action Coalition and the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice has drawn about 30 Congressional endorsements.

Also, Senator Philip Hart (Dem - Mich.) and Representative Bella Abzug (Dem-N.Y.), both longtime war critics, are scheduled to address the rally, according to NPAC and PCPJ.

Representative John F. Seiberling (Dem - Ohio), who joined Edwards at the press conference, said, "I intend not to be present at the inauguration . . . because I do not want to lend support with my presence to the policies he (Mr. Nixon) has followed."

—Washington Post Service