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Nixon Aide Says Critics Out of Touch

Washington

Presidential aide John D. Ehrlichman yesterday accused congressional critics of the administration's budget-cutting program of "grandstanding" and of ignoring public opinion.

Claiming strong support for the drive to cut spending, Ehrlichman told a White House press conference that he could not believe members of Congress are as out of touch with their constituents "as some of their TV statements indicate."

The new attack on congressional critics came after President Nixon met with Senate Finance Committee Chairman Russell B. Long (Dem.-LA.) to discuss prospects of welfare and tax reform, trade legislation and new energy proposals.

Later yesterday, the President and Mrs. Nixon, accompanied by Julie and David Eisenhower, flew to San Clemente, Calif.

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