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## BUCKLEY DEFENDS PRESIDENT ON WAR

3 Other G.O.P. Senators  
Also Back Pullout Policy

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WASHINGTON, April 22—  
Senator James L. Buckley of  
New York and three other Re-  
publican Senators took the  
Senate floor today to defend  
President Nixon's withdrawal  
policy in Vietnam.

Reading his speech to a near-  
ly empty chamber, Mr. Buck-  
ley, a Conservative-Republican,  
said that he confessed to "a  
feeling bordering on despair  
as I see the abandonment of  
reason and reality which has  
crept into the antiwar rhet-  
oric."

Referring to the reduction in  
American troops and casual-  
ties, in South Vietnam, Mr.  
Buckley declared:

"We are on the verge of  
achieving the success of our  
years of effort in blood and  
treasure. To heed the demands  
for a precipitous withdrawal  
at this time would betray the  
valiant efforts made to date.

"By simply continuing our  
training, logistics and air sup-  
port efforts for but a brief  
period of time, the South Viet-  
namese will be capable of  
bearing the full weight of their  
own defense."

### 'At the Water's Edge'

Without mentioning by name  
the critics of Mr. Nixon's viet-  
nam policy, Mr. Buckley con-  
cluded: "There used to be a  
saying that in America politics  
stopped at the water's edge. It  
is time, Mr. President, that we  
dusted off this fine principle  
of political responsibility and  
once again abided by it."

In a speech that preceded  
Mr. Buckley's, Senator William  
B. Saxbe of Ohio said that it  
would be "unrealistic" to set  
a specific date at this point for  
the withdrawal of all American  
troops.

"If it is fair to say that the  
Vietnam war has become  
'Nixon's war' then it is also  
fair to say our steady with-  
drawal of American troops has  
become 'Nixon's withdrawal,'"  
Mr. Saxbe said.

Senator Clifford P. Hansen  
of Wyoming contended that an-  
nouncement of a firm date for  
the withdrawal of American  
troops could lead to the risk  
of "having America's rear guard  
pinned down by the enemy and  
delay the achievement of com-  
plete withdrawal."

Senator Robert Taft Jr. of  
Ohio said that he was "some-  
what amazed at the continued  
criticism of President Nixon's  
policies by the Johnny-come-  
lately doves," and added:

"Their silence during the six-  
ties, when a Democratic Presi-  
dent was shipping hundreds of  
thousand of young American  
men into combat is testimony  
to the pure politics of their  
current dissent."

### Move for "A Balanced Diet"

Mr. Buckley told reports that  
he had decided to join in the  
round of speeches to provide  
"a balanced diet" in the cur-  
rent discussion about Vietnam.  
He generally has expressed sup-  
port for the President's con-  
duct of foreign affairs, but it  
was only his second major Sen-  
ate speech since taking office  
in January. In his first speech,  
Tuesday, Mr. Buckley advocat-  
ed an alternative to Mr. Nixon's  
proposal to share \$5-billion in  
federal revenues with state and  
local governments.

Mr. Buckley also said that  
because of a full schedule he  
had been unable to talk yes-  
terday with a group of Viet-  
nam veterans who had request-  
ed a meeting with him to talk  
about the war. He said that  
he would meet next week with  
representatives of various anti-  
war groups.

Later this afternoon, how-  
ever, a spokesman for the Sen-  
ator reported that Mr. Buckley  
had encountered a group of  
veterans from Long Island at  
the Capitol after he had de-  
livered his speech and spent  
about 20 minutes talking with  
them. The spokesman described  
it as "a good session."