

'Tear Her Limb from Limb,' Martha Exhorts

Singer Disrupts Nixon Dinner

WASHINGTON (AP) — A White House dinner honoring the founders of the Reader's Digest was interrupted when a member of Ray Conniff's singers unrolled a protest sign before invited guests and chastised President Nixon for the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

"President Nixon, stop bombing human beings, animals and vegetation," the young darkhaired singer said as she displayed a sign that read: "Stop the Killing."

Over 100 surprised guests at the dinner last night for Lila and Dewitt Wallace, cofounders of Reader's Digest, were silent as the woman continued: "You go to church on Sunday and pray to Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ were in this room tonight, you would not dare drop another bomb."

THE WOMAN identified herself as Carol Feraci, 30, a professional singer—though not a regular with Conniff—from Los Angeles.

Conniff, who said later he was as stunned as anyone at the demonstration, launched his group into their first song before anyone reacted to the young woman's comments.

But, when it ended, a Nixon friend, John Mulcahy of Bronxville, N.Y., shouted, "Throw her out!"

Conniff told the singer it might be a good idea and she left.

OUTSIDE, Miss Feraci said she was

not a member of any national antiwar organization, but planned the plea because of personal feelings.

"I thought it would get national publicity," she said. "Somebody needed to have courage to say these things. Maybe doing it, other people will have courage to speak out, too."

The Secret Service stepped in as she talked with newsmen and led the woman to a room where she was interrogated for about an hour. No charges were lodged, and after questioning she was sent away in a taxi.

A White House spokesman said the woman had no police record and ap-

parently was motivated by personal beliefs.

PRESIDENT Nixon made no comment, but after Conniff's group finished their performance, he stepped to the stage and asked for applause for the singers and members of the U.S. Marine Band noting that many members of the band had served in Vietnam.

A long round of applause came from the audience, which generally expressed shock and disapproval at the incident.

Martha Mitchell, the outspoken wife of Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell, said, "I think she ought to be torn limb from limb."

The Wallaces were being honored by Nixon with a presentation of the nation's highest civilian award, the Medal of Freedom.

Guests ranged from comedian Bob Hope to The Rev. Billy Graham, who said Miss Feraci's remarks were "very rude, very out of place."

WALLACE, 82, and his wife, were distressed at the incident, but Wallace said he was "absolutely flabbergasted" at being presented with the award—a surprise planned by Nixon.

Wallace added he and his wife would "remember this occasion as long as we live and hopefully, longer."