

McG: Peace Talk 'Nixon Politics'

BOSTON — (AP) — Sen. George McGovern said today he thinks the Nixon Administration is orchestrating rumors of progress in apparent peace talks on Vietnam "more for domestic politics here in the United States than for anything else."

McGovern also said in taping a television appearance here that "the President has dealt with the politics of the problem, not with the problem," adding that "the problem is the war," rather than

the way opinion on it is manipulated.

Later, taping his nationally televised speech Tuesday night on Vietnam "has changed many people's minds" and that he was very much encouraged by the telephone and mail response.

McGovern said the reaction was "really enormous" and added "I was not prepared for the impact."

In response to a question on the television show, he said that "the kind of man I

am thinking about" for Defense Secretary includes such people as former Secretary Clark Clifford, former Paris peace negotiator Cyrus Vance, former Assistant Defense Secretary Paul Warnke and Gen. James M. Gavin, retired, a long time Vietnam war critic.

McGovern declined to name possibilities to be Secretary of State if he is elected but said he would like to build up the role of the State Department.

"I think it's a mistake to

run foreign policy with a bunch of faceless men in the White House basement," he said, adding that while top aide Henry Kissinger is not faceless he cannot be cross-examined by congressional committees as can the Secretary of State.

On Vietnam, McGovern said he thinks "it would have been easier four years ago when he had half a million men over there" to reach a negotiated settlement of the war.

McGovern said he hopes

reports of progress are accurate but added "I'm inclined to think it's being orchestrated more for domestic politics here in the United States than for anything else."

Yesterday McGovern responded to Republican criticism of his Vietnam peace proposal by saying the Nixon Administration is "willing to surrender hundreds of American prisoners of war to another four years of captivity."