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## Gravel Accuses Administration Of Trying to Silence War Foes

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BOSTON, Sept. 10—Senator Mike Gravel, Democrat of Alaska, accused the Nixon Administration today of trying to intimidate Congressional critics through the use of a Federal grand jury investigation here.

Mr. Gravel made the charge after having listened to arguments in Federal District Court in his attempt to quash a subpoena issued to one of his staff members by a grand jury looking into the circulation and publication of the secret Pentagon study of the Vietnam war.

His petition, and that of another witness subpoenaed before the same grand jury, were taken under advisement by Judge W. Arthur Garrity, who is not expected to rule until sometime next week.

Although the grand jury's investigation is secret and the Government refuses to disclose what information it is seeking from the witnesses, Mr. Gravel said it was clear that an attempt was being made to investigate him.

The Senator, at a June 29 subcommittee meeting, read into the Congressional Record parts of the Pentagon papers at the time that the Justice Department was moving to block further publication of the papers in The New York Times and in other newspapers.

### Congressional Immunity Argued

"Only after I sat in the courtroom today and saw how aggressively the Government seemed in its attempts to point the case toward me did I become convinced they are after a member of my staff only to get to me," Senator Gravel said.

Asked by newsmen whether he saw an effort by the Administration to intimidate critics in Congress, Mr. Gravel said: "I can only come to that conclusion. I was not of that opinion until I saw the aggressive way the Government pointed its case toward me today."

Attorneys for Senator Gravel were attempting to block the subpoena of Dr. Leonard S. Rodberg, an expert on foreign

affairs hired by Mr. Gravel to prepare his statement on the Pentagon papers, which were read before the Senate subcommittee on Buildings and Grounds.

The attorneys argued that the Senator had directed Dr. Rodberg's efforts and that Dr. Rodberg was protected by the immunity from prosecution granted to members of Congress by the Constitution. The attorneys contended that any interrogation of Senator's staff members by the grand jury was unconstitutional.

The Government, represented by a Justice Department lawyer, Paul Vincent, denied that the Constitution protected the staff member and argued that Mr. Gravel had conducted himself in such a way as to lose immunity.

Judge Garrity heard arguments earlier from lawyers for Prof. Richard Falk of Princeton University, who had also been subpoenaed.

One of them, Jack Levine, argued that the subpoena issued to Professor Falk, a recognized expert in foreign affairs and author of works opposing the war in Vietnam, violated his First Amendment rights as a scholar and journalist.

Any attempt to force Professor Falk to appear, Mr. Levine said, would close off his confidential sources of information and deprive the public of his knowledge, interpretations and discussions of matters of public importance. The Government argued that Professor Falk had no such standing and should be required to testify.