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Javits Says U.S. Tolerates Repression

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WASHINGTON, May 4 — In his strongest criticism of the Nixon Administration to date, Senator Jacob K. Javits charged tonight that the threat of repression in the country was for the first time being "tolerated, if not actually condoned, at the highest level of our Federal Government."

The New York Republican declared that "the words and actions of some of our national leaders do not, as in the past, seek to calm the fears, heal the factions, restore our national morale or instill renewed confidence in our destiny and in our institutions."

"Instead," Mr. Javits said, "the rhetoric tends to foment and to divide."

The Senator's remarks were contained in a speech prepared for delivery at Brown University, Providence, R.I. The text was released by the Senator's office here.

In an interview earlier today, Mr. Javits said that "some very serious mistakes are being made and I am seeking to lead the administration of my party to try to correct these." Although Mr. Javits did not mention President Nixon, Vice President Agnew, or any other Administration official by name, the Senator said: "my meaning is very obvious."

Grave Problem Is Seen

In his text, Mr. Javits said that while campus unrest, bombings "and other outrages of the violent left pose a grave national problem, there is another, and at least equal, danger—the growing threat of repression, not only of 'demonstrations,' but of all forms of expression and dissent traditionally protected by the Bill of Rights."

Recalling the Alien and Sedi-

tion Acts of 1798, the repression of 'anarchists' after World War I and "the latterday witch hunts of Senator Joseph McCarthy," Mr. Javits declared:

"But now there seems to be the threat of a more insidious form of repression in our land, touched off by the growing threat of violence on the radical left, but for the first time tolerated, if not actually condoned, at the highest level of our Federal Government."

He said that as yet there was "no visible leadership at the very topoo restrain these short-sighted counsels of despair. the over-all impression is that the national leadership is, at best, unclear as to what its rhetoric means and where it seeks to take us; and, at worst, an all-too-willing party to the rupture of relations between groups and generations."

School Stand Questioned

He questioned whether it was possible "to fathom the Federal stop-go position on school desegregation," and he said of the so-called "silent majority:" "It may very well be an imaginary group of Americans conjured out of thin air to be the stalking horse of a radical trend to the right simply because, by its very definition, it cannot talk back between elections."

"This repressive, intolerant trend in our nation is a mutation of traditional American conservatism under the stresses of the Vietnam war, domestic violence and fear." Mr. Javits added.

He said that recent attacks on the mass media, the

Supreme Court and the United States Senate "are couched in terms to turn people against one another, to sow suspicions among the people, to feed on their fears and, by clear implication, to lay claim to our national leaders as being the sole source of credibility, virtue and patriotism in the land. This is hardly the spirit in which our country was built and has prospered."