

White House Officials and Nixon Son-in-Law Continue

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 — Last April, after a nationwide television address on the Watergate affair, President Nixon went to the White House press briefing room and told a handful of surprised reporters and photographers still lingering there that he hoped they would "give me hell every time you think I'm wrong."

"I hope I'm worthy of your trust," he said before departing for his upstairs living quarters as abruptly as he had arrived.

Now the President, still ensnared in the Watergate web and a growing number of peripheral investigations, besieged by talk of impeachment and calls for his resignation, seems to feel that he has caught enough "hell."

While he worked today in the quiet of Camp David, his mountain retreat 75 miles northwest of here in Maryland, White House officials and David Eisenhower, his son-in-law, continued the onslaught on the news media that Mr. Nixon began at his Friday night news conference. At that conference, he inveighed against what he called the most "outrageous, vicious, distorted reporting" he had seen in 27 years of public life.

Policy Decision Seen

The campaign against the news media, which the Nixon Administration has used in the past when it felt that it was unfairly under attack in times of stress, has been so intense in the last few days that it appears to observers here to be the result of a White House policy decision.

Today, Gerald L. Warren, the deputy press secretary who delivers most of the daily briefings at the White House, told the assembled reporters about the need to put news articles in "perspective."

He sharply criticized two unidentified television networks for not including a White House explanation that the President had later reversed himself in their reporting of Mr. Nixon's 1971 order to Richard G. Kleindienst, who was then Deputy Attorney General, not to press some antitrust actions against the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation.

Yesterday, he spent most of an hour talking with reporters about the responsibility of the press and defending Mr. Nixon's attack on the media Friday night.

But Mr. Warren was not the only person associated with the Administration to speak out. The White House was apparently trying to convince the public that Mr. Nixon had been the victim of the "frantic, hysterical reporting" that he complained about Friday night.

"In the last few days," a net-

work newsman said, "Ken Clawson has been offering us all kinds of people—Pat Buchanan, David and Julie Eisenhower."

Mr. Clawson runs the White House Office of Communications, which seeks to spread the Administration's point of view by providing speakers and by other means.

The Communications Office, which before Herbert G. Klein resigned as director several months ago had a reputation for attempting to exert behind-the-scenes influence on newspapers, news magazines and television and radio, has been relatively dormant in that area recently, according to those familiar with its operation.

But it sprang into action quickly in the current dispute

between the President and the news media.

Yesterday, Mr. Buchanan, a Presidential speech writer, appeared on the Columbia Broadcasting System's morning news program and said that in the East Room of the White House on Friday night "The mood there was really like Sunday afternoon in the Tijuana bull ring, in my judgment, and I thought in that mood the President expressed feelings that he had gathered over a period of time."

Mr. Buchanan said that in his "personal view" the Admin-

istration ought to "move with sort of legislation, actually; not use it as a lever, but to move with it in order to break the power of the networks."

"In my judgment," he said, "if these were a competitive situation, and you had, say, eight networks working—a situation similar to that you have in radio—if there were competing voices, I think you would have far less criticism on the part of Government."

Mr. Buchanan said that "just as the First Amendment gives you the right of a free press,

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President's Attack on the News Media

the right of freedom of speech to criticize us, to say that the President of the United States is not doing a good job, so we can exercise the same freedom to say that the networks are not doing a good job, The New York Times, for example, might not be doing a good job, and The Washington Post might not be doing a good job."

This morning on the National Broadcasting Company's "Today" show, David Eisenhower, who married the President's daughter Julie, continued the criticism.

He said that there was too much "reporting without applying any perspective to it at all" and added that the "irresponsibility" of the media "has been matched by the irresponsibility of the people they may quote."

"It takes two to tango," he said.

Criticism of the news media has not been unusual in the past on the part of Mr. Nixon or persons in or close to his Administration, but its intensity in the last few days has rarely, if ever, been matched.

Early in Mr. Nixon's first term, former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew set the tone with his widely remembered speech in Des Moines, Iowa, in which he castigated the press and television networks.

And Mr. Nixon left little doubt about his feelings in his news conference in 1962 after he lost the California gubernatorial election at which he told reporters, "You won't have Nixon to kick around any more."

"This is my last press conference," he said then.