

Cheers and Jeers Greet Nixon on Georgia Trip

Macon, Ga.

President Nixon was jeered as well as cheered in conservative central Georgia yesterday as he joined a 90th birthday tribute to former Representative Carl M. Vinson.

Stressing the need for national security and his own peacemaking role — as he has so often in his long struggle to free himself from the tentacles of the Watergate scandal, the President said that “we may be establishing a pattern where the great powers will recognize that the risks of war are too great.”

But neither Mr. Nixon's off-the-cuff speech in the

Willingham Chapel of Mercer University nor his announcement that the nation's fourth nuclear-powered aircraft carrier will be named for Vinson distracted attention from Watergate.

On his arrival at Robins Air Force Base near here, hours after his lengthy Watergate question-and-answer session with newspaper editors at Disney World in Florida, the President was greeted by a friendly crowd of about 20,000 people. Several persons waved pro-Nixon, anti-media placards, such as “Nixon 21, Press 0.”

But the scene was different when Mr. Nixon reached the campus of Mercer University, whose Walter F. George Law School was cel-

Back Page Col. 1

From Page 1

brating its 100th anniversary along with the 90th birthday of Vinson, a graduate of the school.

Several hundred students stood outside the chapel, chanting “Out Now” and “No More Years.” They drowned out a band of supporters who shouted “Four

More Years.”

Placards waved above the demonstrators heads said: “Georgia, the Impeach State” and “The Emperor Has No Clothes.”

A group of four professors, three of them department heads at the University, had planned to walk out during the speech, but they were denied admission to the chapel. They therefore issued a broadside describing Mr. Nixon's appearance here before a carefully screened crowd as a “textbook example of political opportunism.”

“He knew,” the professors said, “that because of the nature of the occasion, he would be able to create the impression throughout the United States that his popularity is such that he is able to come to our University and be given a cordial reception.”

During the ceremony, Mr. Nixon joked about his image.

He noted that the Atlanta Falcons, the local National Football League team, had won six straight after losing their first three games. Perhaps, Mr. Nixon said, he should “have a talk with Norm van Brocklin” — the coach — “and find out how he did it.”

Later, alluding to the demonstrators, Mr. Nixon said that he is working toward “a world where these young people we heard outside” can live in peace with Russians, Chinese and Africans.

The demonstration, which was entirely peaceful and never disturbed the proceedings inside the chapel, was the first that Mr. Nixon has witnessed since he was heckled during a speech in Kansas City in early July.

Ronald L. Ziegler, the presidential press secretary, said that favorable calls are flooding the White House. He conceded that the firing of Archibald M. Cox as the Watergate prosecutor had

produced an adverse reaction. But he sought to dismiss it as the product, in part, of “a stimulated campaign drummed up by traditional adversaries of the President.”

Joining Mr. Nixon in the tribute to Vinson, who retired in 1965 after becoming the only man ever to serve a half century in the House of Representatives, were a number of other political notables, including Senator Herman E. Talmadge

(Dem-Ga.), a member of the Watergate committee. Talmadge did not mention Mr. Nixon in his speech.

But Vinson, the legendary “Swamp Fox” who led the House Armed Services Committee for 15 years, praised Mr. Nixon effusively. His voice still clear and resonant, Vinson hailed the “distinguished and revered” president for his long-time advocacy of national defense.

New York Times

Friend and Foe

SFChronicle

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A friendly crowd welcomed the President at Robins Air Force Base

AP Wirephotos



At Mercer University, hundreds of students called for President's impeachment



UPI Telephoto

Former Representative Carl Vinson | **A** **Nixon on Vinson's 90th birthday**