

# Nixon Gets Cheers, Boos In Georgia

By Carroll Kilpatrick  
Washington Post Staff Writer

MACON, Ga., Nov. 18 — President Nixon, heartened by reaction to his meeting Saturday night with the Associated Press Managing Editors Association, won additional applause here today from an enthusiastic group of his Georgia supporters.

The warmth of the welcome was marred, however, by a group of several hundred Mercer University students and faculty who greeted his arrival at the Mercer campus with boos and chants of "Nixon must go."

Otherwise, the President received a campaign-type welcome in this Democratic state which he carried just a year ago by 881,000 to 289,000.

Accompanied by Mrs. Nixon, the President flew here from Key Biscayne, Fla., to participate in a joint ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of Mercer's Walter F. George Law School and the 90th birthday of former Democratic Rep. Carl M. Vinson.

The President announced that this country's third nuclear aircraft carrier, which is now being built, would be named the USS Vinson. The first nuclear carrier was named for Dwight D. Eisenhower and the second for Adm. Chester Nimitz.

En route here, White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler told reporters that the reaction to the President's hour-long question-and-answer session Saturday night near Orlando, Fla., in which he replied to a series of Watergate questions, was highly favorable.

Ziegler said the response was "quantitatively larger" than the adverse reaction following the dismissal of Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox.

Ziegler charged that "a lot" of the mail to Capitol Hill following the Cox firing and calling for the President's impeachment was "manufactured and coordinated reaction."

"There was a coordinated pattern of stimulated negative mail referring to resignation and impeachment," Ziegler said. "There's no question about it."

The outpouring was "manufactured" by "traditional adversaries of the President," the press secretary declared, charg-

ing that staff members of the Ralph Nader organization and of Common Cause used congressional offices to "drum up" criticism of the President.

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## PRESIDENT, From A1

In his televised meeting with the editors in Orlando, Mr. Nixon fielded a host of critical questions. Ziegler said the telephone and telegraph reaction to the session and to his recent speech on the need to conserve energy were "as large as I've ever seen them, on the positive side."

Alexander M. Haig Jr., White House chief of staff, commenting on the President's "buoyancy" after the meeting said there had been a "tremendous reaction."

"We've got to take 'em on," he said in commenting on the President's critics. "We can't go on the way we are" with the entire world watching the fight over the presidency.

Haig urged reporters not to read any significance into the President's comment Saturday night to the editors that "I am relatively healthy at present" and that he would continue in his job "as long as I am physically able."

This was merely the President's way of stressing his intention to remain in office and finish his job, "barring an act

of God," Haig explained.

When Mr. Nixon's plane landed here today at Robins Air Force Base outside Macon, a crowd estimated at more than 5,000 was on hand to cheer him. There were no hostile signs in the crowd and many friendly ones, including some denouncing the press.

"We love and support President Nixon," one sign said. Another said, "Keep up the good work."

Although he seemed to be very tired, the President responded to the crowd's welcome and made an unscheduled speech, emphasizing the need to keep the country strong.

"I believe we can build a peace that will last," he told the airport crowd.

Crowds also lined part of the long motorcade route into the city.

It was not until the President's car pulled into the Mercer campus that he saw hostile signs calling for his impeachment or resignation and denouncing his Watergate role.

When the President entered the college chapel where the ceremonies were held he could hear the chant of "Nixon must go" shouted by students outside.

Petitions were circulated on the campus in support of and against the invitation to the President before he arrived. Four anti-Nixon professors circulated a statement asserting that they had planned to walk out of the chapel when the President began to speak but were denied entrance. They called the President "a rattlesnake."

Sen. Herman E. Talmadge, a member of the Senate Watergate committee, was one of those paying tribute to Vinson, who served for 50 years in the House and was the long-time chairman of the Armed Services Committee. Talmadge never mentioned the President.

Vinson, who spoke at length and in a loud voice, warmly praised the President, asserting that he was a man of "ability, courage and patriotism."

The President praised Vinson and his support for a strong national defense.

In a reference to his critics outside the chapel, the President said "I want a world for these young people that we heard outside a few moments ago" where they won't be drafted and in which they "can work with their young colleagues in Russia, in China, in Latin America, in Africa" on health, environment, energy and other critical questions.



United Press International

Children reach out for President Nixon's hand after his arrival at Robins Air Force Base outside Macon, Ga.