

## Arab leftists criticize Nixon

BEIRUT — "The fox in the Arab chicken house," a leftist Beirut newspaper wrote today of President Nixon.

The editorial in Al Moharrer was typical of the hostile stand Arab leftists are taking toward Nixon's swing through the Middle East beginning tomorrow.

Al Moharrer also called Nixon a "foe in the garment of a friend." But it said the President needs the Arabs to overcome his difficulties at home, and "Arab diplomacy, if it acts properly, could make Nixon its captive."

Columnist Michel Abou Jawdeh wrote in the Beirut newspaper An Nahar that the only tangible success that could come from Nixon's visit would be a declaration that "the time has come to recognize the Palestinian personality, identity and Palestinian state."

He said such a U.S. declaration would be "difficult if not impossible because the president will have to be careful that his statements in favor of the Arabs do not alienate Israel, which has adopted a stonewall position on the Palestinians."

Abou Jawdeh added that the Palestinians will never be secure until their identity and rights are recognized,

and "if the United States can't bring this about, the Palestinian can depend only on his gun."

Some the strongest criticism of Nixon's Middle East tour is coming from radical Iraq, which Nixon is not visiting.

Al Jumhouria, the Iraqi government paper, said the United States' "new wedding with its friends in the Middle East does not annul the Catholic wedding Washington has with the Zionist enemy."

Beirut, a pro-Iraqi newspaper in the Lebanese capital, carried a cartoon showing Sadat and Nixon as bride and groom with Secretary of State Kissinger as the matchmaker singing in the background.

Beirut's right-wing Al Hayat warned the Arabs:

"When we learn to control ourselves toward those whom we imagine to be our friends, then we will find the right way of dealing with both friends and foes," the paper said.