

Nixon Backs Eventual End of Draft

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MADISON, Wis., Nov. 17—Richard M. Nixon told a group of law students tonight that eventually the Selective Service System should be abolished and replaced by a professional, well-paid corps of troops skilled in the techniques of modern warfare.

The former Vice President has been concerned for some time about the subject of the draft, a controversial issue both in Washington and on university campuses.

A number of his advisers have been quietly working on position papers that would set forth his alternatives to the present system. His remarks tonight appear to have contained the results of these deliberations.

Mr. Nixon, an unannounced candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, spoke before the Student Bar Association at the Wisconsin Center on the campus of the University of Wisconsin.

Questioned on Views

He arrived in Madison last evening in one of a series of visits he will make to key primary states before deciding whether to try for the nomi-

nation. He is expected to announce his candidacy in January.

His comments on the draft came after a student asked him for his views on the merits of the Selective Service System.

"A change in the Selective Service System at this time is not likely and would probably not be wise," he began. "It would be a stop-gap—and the wrong kind of change—in a system that needs a complete reappraisal."

However, he went on, "an entirely new approach" to recruiting men for the armed services should be developed "when we achieve peace in Vietnam."

Sees Types of Wars

While acknowledging that a "broad-based draft" had served useful purposes in earlier wars, Mr. Nixon insisted that the present system was not fully relevant to the Vietnam war or the kinds of wars the United States was likely to fight in the future.

These wars, he said, will probably be of two types: "A nuclear exchange — in which case the Selective Service System will not matter—or guerrilla wars."

Therefore, he said, "what is

needed is not a broad-based draft but a professional military corps," to which should be added a "professional civilian corps" for purposes of "pacification" of foreign countryside where American troops are engaged in action.

The nation must, he concluded, "move toward a volunteer army by compensating those who go into the military on a basis comparable to those in civilian careers."

Mr. Nixon's views reinforced those expressed in recent weeks by a number of leading Republicans in the House, including Representative Thomas B. Curtis of Missouri and Representative Donald Rumsfeld of Illinois.

Well-Paid Army Urged

Both have argued that recruitment procedures for the armed forces should be changed to produce a well-paid, highly professional Army that would provide wider opportunities for manpower training and greater incentives for lifetime service.

In addition, both Congressmen, as well as other Republicans, have also sharply criticized a Presidential commission on the draft headed by Burke Marshall for rejecting such a system. Congress extended the present Selective Service procedures in a vote last summer.

Mr. Nixon's address tonight was a general discussion of world problems. His audience was attentive, polite, but undemonstrative, and there were no pickets outside the building where he spoke.

Only last week, Gov. George Romney of Michigan, also a Republican, who is expected to announce his bid for the Presidential nomination tomorrow, was greeted by hecklers in a speech here.