

George Romney Speaks of Richard Nixon In Monmouth Campaign Speech

by LINDA MARTIN

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, George Romney, spoke here at Monmouth College on Wednesday, October 25. He arrived by helicopter on the Great Lawn greeted by distinguished representatives of the College. Mr. Romney was introduced by William Dowd, candidate for congressman of the third congressional district. The crowd numbered about 300.

Romney discussed President Nixon's accomplishments over the past four years. He noted that there were a great deal of complexities to be dealt with when President Nixon first took office. There was the Vietnam War, tension in the Middle East, Berlin was still an area of confrontation between East and West, our allies were alienated, we had no communications with Red China, we were still involved in a cold war with the Soviet Union, and we had unlimited military commitments to many nations around the world. Mr. Romney commented, "I submit that when you take a look at the conditions that existed then and the conditions that exist now that it's obvious that there's been a significant turning point in world history." Mr. Romney proceeded to point out the improvements made by President Nixon.

Discussing the Vietnam War, Romney predicted that Nixon may still settle it within his first four years. He has until January 20th. Mr. Romney pointed out that McGovern offered a proposal to the North Vietnamese that goes beyond surrender which caused problems with the President's peace plan.

The U.S.S.R. gaining military superiority is still posing a threat to U.S. defenses. Romney declared that Nixon will not allow this to happen. He claimed that McGovern's defense cut will not give the U.S. the ability to

protect nations from communist takeover. President Nixon has done more to keep peace by establishing talks with Russia and China.

Mr. Romney continued, ever since President Lincoln domestic problems have been left up to the Federal Government to solve. The Federal Government used taxes as the means to solve these problems. At the same time while the Federal Government gained money, The state and local government lost it. Nixon has begun to change the tide the other way. He has started to return the money back to the local and state governments through decentralization. A good example is the Revenue

Sharing Plan where 6% of the personal income tax is returned to the states.

Romney explained how the President has cut back on military spending and returned the money to the domestic scene. Only 32% of the tax dollar goes to military spending while 44% goes to domestic problems. As far as the employment situation is concerned 2,000,000 less people are employed by the military and defense plants while at the same time 5,000,000 more people are employed now than in 1969. At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Romney held a brief question-and-answer period.