



Congressman John Dellenback

Photo by Josh Marquis

Dellenback says 'not yet' on Watergate impeachment

Congressman John Dellenback told a press conference Friday morning that "there has been injury done" both to the office of the President and to the image of our nation by the disclosures in the Watergate affair.

Dellenback refused to speculate on what course the ongoing Senate investigation might take, but said that it would "undoubtedly broaden what we now know."

The Fourth District representative emphasized that he did not feel President Nixon "was not in any way involved." He said, "This is not the time to talk about impeachment."

Asked whether the President has suffered a loss of confidence in his choice of staff, Dellenback replied, "There is indeed a loss in confidence. I think this thing has

affected all facets of government in Washington."

Dellenback said he believes that Watergate did not have an entirely adverse effect, in that "it did bring out things that have probably been going on for some time."

Dellenback said that while he would not speculate as to the guilt or innocence of those involved in Watergate, he felt it should be understood "that this is not a Republican party impropriety. It involved the Committee to Re-Elect the President."

On Cambodia, Dellenback said his recent vote against further military aid to that nation "is consistent with my past record." Having withdrawn troops from Vietnam and having obtained the release of our POWs, "it would be

a bad time to start reversing ourselves," he said.

Dellenback said that he felt the vote came at an important point in time. "It was the time for Congress to assert itself," he said, but warned that "anyone who thinks congressional action will have immediate effect" is deluding himself. The President could conceivably continue to conduct bombing in Cambodia without congressional approval, "but only for a short period of time and then the available funds would run out," he said.

The Congressman also commented on the energy crisis. "It's not a vague and remote threat," he said. "We have already entered the first stages of the impending energy crisis."

Dellenback was disappointed in the President's recent message concerning energy resources, saying the President did not go far enough. He suggested three initial possibilities to help alleviate the problem: "Developing new energy resources through a massive research and development program, the creation of a national conservation ethic, and the establishment of a Department of Energy and National Resources."

Dellenback termed the proposed Alaska oil pipeline "merely an incremental source, though an important one."

He was also concerned about the possible nationalization of American oil resources in Libya by the Libyan government.

Dellenback concluded that it "is necessary for citizens to initiate action" so that direct government intervention would not become necessary.

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Thien . . .

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supposed to ensure "the democratic liberties of the people: personal freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of meeting, freedom of organization, freedom of political activities, freedom of belief, freedom of movement . . ." (Chapter 4, Article 11).

"The United States government and the Thieu regime," says Thien, "are not living up to that agreement one bit. I just want to go back to my country, a part controlled by the PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, Viet Cong). The United States government has signed an agreement, an instrument of trust, they should at least honor it with the Vietnamese people."

Thien's busy schedule in Eugene includes many activities regarding his upcoming defense and talks with the press and television. To "get people to listen, contribute to my case or write to their Congressmen and Senators," is Thien's main objective, so that other political prisoners, many of them, will not be continually subjected to the pain and torture that the Thieu government is inflicting on the people of South Vietnam."

Anyone interested in helping Thien's case, or the plight of the political prisoners, should contact the Ngo Chi Thien Defense Committee, P.O. Box 10121, Portland, Oregon 97210, phone 223-0445.

"All we want is peace," says Thien. "We want to live in peace, exist in peace and stay in peace."

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