

Robert Kennedy, Barnett Blame Each Other for Bitter Oxford Riots

Brown and Nixon Clash Head-On In Debate Before UPI Editors

San Francisco — UPI — Gov. Edmund G. Brown and challenger Richard M. Nixon rode into the final weeks of the election campaign today on a wave of bitter charges and counter-charges.

Their reasonably polite race for governor of California changed overnight into a slugging match.

The Democratic incumbent and his Republican opponent clashed head to head Monday in their only joint appearance of the campaign, before the 1962 Conference of United Press International Editors and Publishers.

From that often-heated exchange came two issues that undoubtedly will draw sparks from both men in the closing five weeks of their battle for governor.

The question of whether it was "morally or ethically proper" for Nixon, then the vice president, to permit the Hughes Tool Co. to lend \$205,000 to Nixon's brother, Donald.

A fiery difference of opinion as to whether Nixon endorses or repudiates two con-

gressional candidates who are members of the John Birch Society and whether Brown blesses the candidacy of two Democrats who Nixon alleged help lead the riots against the House Un-American Activities committee when it met in San Francisco on May 1, 1960.

Raises Issue

The issue of the Hughes loan was injected into the UPI discussion by Thomas W. Braden, publisher of the Occasionside, Calif. Balde-Tribune and Brown appointee to the state board of education.

"I want to ask you if you think it is proper for a candidate for governor, morally or ethically, to have permitted his family to receive a secret loan?"

Moderator O. Preston Robinson, general manager and editor of the Desert News and Telegram, Salt Lake City, ruled Nixon did not have to answer the question.

"I insist on answering it," said the former vice president.

He then related that six years ago his brother was in "deep financial trouble" and that Donald Nixon borrowed \$205,000 from the Hughes Tool Co., controlled by multi-millionaire Howard Hughes. The candidate said his mother put up some of her property as security and that his brother finally went bankrupt. The property went to the tool company.

"I had no part in the negotiation of the loan," Nixon said. "I was never asked to do anything by the Hughes Tool Co. and I never did anything for them."

Blames Governor

Noting that President Kennedy did not raise the Hughes loan as an issue in the 1960 presidential campaign, Nixon then accused Brown "and his henchmen" of "slyly" planting the idea that Nixon had done something wrong in connection with the transaction.

Turning to Brown, standing barely 10 feet away, Nixon said:

"I have made mistakes, but I am an honest man. Now is the time to have this out. If the governor has any evidence that I did anything for the Hughes company, now he has his chance. Governor Brown has a chance to stand up as a man and charge me with misconduct. Do it, sir!"

Brown replied: "I have said nothing about

it to anyone whatsoever, other than to ask some people as to why your campaign manager, when the note first was disclosed, stated that the note was made by someone else, and I wanted to know the facts in connection with the situation."

Brown conceded he had read about the story in a magazine and then added: "But until this moment I never said anything about it other than in casual conversa-

tion from time to time in connection with reading the story."

JBS Dispute

Nixon, who has been highly critical of Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, was asked if he was "proud" of California Republican Congressman John H. Roussetot and Edgar W. Hiestand, both JBS members who are running for reelection.

Nixon said he would not endorse any candidates for federal office, in keeping with California election year tradition. But then he unexpectedly turned to Brown and said:

"Are you supporting two candidates — Assemblyman John A. O'Connell and Assemblyman Philip Burton who helped to lead the riots against the Committee on Un-American Activities when it met in San Francisco?"

Brown countered by saying both men were "excellent" state legislators. He said he did not always agree with their positions but that he supported them "unequivocally."

Burton, a candidate for reelection, and O'Connell, running for Congress in San Francisco, accused Nixon of "deliberate slander" and "character assassination."

The two Democrats said they had criticized the committee in speeches to a student rally the day before the riots occurred. Both denied they were present during the wild demonstrations at the city hall.

Claims Other Promises

Kennedy said Barnett went even further — he said the governor promised not to stop Meredith's delivery to the campus, and to help keep law and order. No one stopped Meredith's entry, but when the crowd got ugly the state police were "withdrawn," he said.

The attorney general did not say who withdrew them, but he charged that when the marshals were fighting for their lives on the campus 150 highway patrolmen were sitting in about 80 cars a quarter of a mile away.

Mississippians Said Inflamed To Justify Troops

Washington — UPI — The federal government and the state of Mississippi bitterly blamed each other today for the bloody battle of Oxford.

Gov. Ross Barnett told the nation Monday night that the federal government had deliberately inflamed Mississippians to justify the use of troops to enroll Negro James Meredith at the University of Mississippi.

Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy intimated that Barnett himself must ultimately bear the responsibility for the campus riot.

Blames Marshals

Barnett said the U.S. marshals who put Meredith on the campus were "trigger-happy" and fired tear gas shells into the backs of state policemen and innocent students.

The attorney general, however, said the marshals were brave men who calmly faced bricks, bottles, fire bombs and snipers in the dark after the state police deserted them.

Kennedy, in so many words, charged that Barnett double-crossed the federal government. But Barnett said he went so far as to advise Kennedy that if he was going to bring Meredith onto the campus, he had better do it Sunday instead of Monday.

For on Monday, Barnett said, there would have been "20,000 persons in Oxford" with all sorts of "dangerous weapons" and "hundreds of persons" would have been killed.

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Russia Believed Shifting To 'Nuclear Obliteration' Strategy

London — UPI — British experts said today Russia may be concentrating on super-bombs in a shift to a strategy of "nuclear obliteration."

Recent Soviet tests have involved multi-megaton devices ranging from 10 to 30 megatons, or more. A megaton is equal to a million tons of TNT.

Russia climaxed its previous series last fall by testing a 50-plus megaton bomb, the largest ever exploded. Premier Nikita Khrushchev has boasted Russia can make them even bigger, up to 100 megatons.

Experts in London believe such devices can only be aimed at total and indiscriminate obliteration of vast areas, including cities.

The United States, by contrast, favors a nuclear war strategy of discriminating attack limited largely to strategic targets, while sparing cities and other chiefly civilian areas.

A military study published in Meshdunarodnaya Shiam (International Affairs) earlier this year plainly stated that military strategy will favor a

blow against such targets whose destruction will paralyze the enemy almost instantly.

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MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1962

Foreign Briefs

OPERATION 'SOUTHERN EXPRESS' DUE IN GREECE

Naples, Italy — UPI — Gen. Lauris Norstad, supreme commander of allied forces in Europe, announced Monday that 3,000 Belgian, German, British and American troops would be airlifted to Greece this month in operation "Southern Express."

The first part of the exercise was held last month. It was called "Fall Trap."

ISRAELI BORDER PATROLMAN KILLED

Jerusalem, Israel — UPI — An Israeli border patrolman was killed and another wounded today when they were fired on by an unknown infiltrator on the Israeli-Syrian Sea of Galilee border, informed sources said.

ARGENTINA PRESIDENT TOURS BASES

Buenos Aires — UPI — President Jose M. Guido made a flying tour of military installations in the Buenos Aires area Monday, for the first time since he was installed in March.

Guido, travelling by helicopter, visited the Navy's mechanics school, the Moron airbase and the Army's logistics training center at Camp Mayo.

WARSAW PACT MANEUVERS HELD

Berlin — UPI — The Czech news agency reported Monday night that Soviet, East German and Czech troops participated in joint Warsaw pact maneuvers in Czechoslovakia late last month.

Similar maneuvers are known to have taken place recently in East Germany.

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