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GOP Leaders to Speak Out On 'Real' Public Issues

Former Vice President Nixon recommended in Detroit Tuesday that President Kennedy meet with Nikita Khrushchev to help convince the Russian boss "that he is dealing with a man he cannot risk pushing around."

Mr. Nixon had other things to say about the new administration, its activities, plans, and programs.

He took issue, for example, with Mr. Kennedy's appeal to news media for self-censorship of news.

He declared, using the abortive invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles trained under CIA direction as a reference, that the United States "must never talk bigger than it is prepared to act."

He asserted that President Kennedy, who had complained about the caliber of former President Eisenhower's ambassadorial appointments, hasn't done much better himself.

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We do not propose at this time to comment on the specifics mentioned by the former vice president.

What we do say is that it is a good thing for the country for Mr. Nixon to speak out, and continue to speak out as he has said he will do, particularly if he restricts himself as he said to "real issues."

During the presidential campaign Mr. Nixon charted a position which he has described as in the Eisenhower tradi-

tion, avoiding "reaction on the right and radicalism on the left." It drew the support of more than 30 million men and women, almost enough to elect him President.

Politically speaking, therefore, Mr. Nixon must be considered as the public voice for almost half of the American voters. It is right and advisable that his opinions should be expressed on matters of public concern, just as it is right and advisable that those of Sen. Goldwater and Gov. Rockefeller should be expressed. For the senator and governor represent generally the "conservative" and "liberal" opinions respectively within the party of which Mr. Nixon is the titular leader.

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It is a good thing to hear from them. And it is encouraging also to have the declaration from Gen. Eisenhower that he intends to make his voice heard on public issues as long as he has the strength and opportunity to do so.

The responsibility for executive policy and action under our system of government rests with the President. But discussion and criticism from the "opposition" should not be muted. If it should it could mean the end of our historic two-party system.

Gen. Eisenhower, Mr. Nixon, Sen. Goldwater, Gov. Rockefeller, along with others in the Republican party, intend to see that the system is perpetuated.