

Barney Glazer's 'HOLLYWOOD HOTLINE'

(Atlanta, Ga.)—John Wayne, David Janssen, Patrick Wayne, Irene Tsu and Bruce Cabot met with the press at the Regency Hyatt House here prior to the premiere of "The Green Berets" (Batjac: Warner/7 Arts) at the Fox Theatre. First thing reporters asked: was there any truth to the spreading rumor that Wayne is smoking again? He denied it but

roared, "I do have a hang-over and thank God I can have at least that."

He also disclaimed any aspirations to run for political office. "I know nothing about war but I do know that the Communists are grinding away and making inroads each year. I think that before we get weak, we should make our stand."

THE VETERAN star said, "I don't think that actors should be strongly opinionated because it tends to turn many fans against us. But as long as we have Senators like Fulbright and others I believe that anyone who feels strongly enough should speak up. I feel strongly enough."

Shortly after a reporter had asked David Janssen for his political affiliation and Janssen had replied, "What difference does it make?" Wayne told the newsmen, "I don't mind telling you that I'm Republican and I'm voting for Nixon. He has more experience than the rest of them."

ALTHOUGH he's a Republican, Wayne said that it made no difference to LBJ, who gave him the green signal to make "The Green Berets" after McNamara and the Defense Department had thrown every possible block in his path.

"Until we made the picture, accused the popular

star, "everyone in Hollywood was scared to death to make a movie about Vietnam. Those old time movie makers aren't all gone. They were so afraid, they wouldn't touch our picture. But Batjac bought the book, made the film, and Jack Warner and Benny Kalmenson had no qualms about releasing it. Now, anybody will make a Vietnam movie."

WAYNE admitted he was puzzled. "I just don't get it. Hollywood had made lots of movies about the Civil War, Revolutionary War, World Wars I and II and the Korean War but all of a sudden nobody wanted to touch the Vietnam War. We got the jump on everyone."

"Those bad reviews for 'Green Berets' proved once and for all that reviews don't mean a thing. Critics should have remembered that 200 pictures made money for studios and those were the ones I was in."

THAT was no idle boast. Wayne was so right.

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