

Clinton Praises Bush's Father

In the Presidential debate last night, Gov. Bill Clinton recalled the anti-McCarthy stance taken by President Bush's father, Senator Prescott S. Bush of Connecticut, and tried to contrast it with recent comments by the younger Mr. Bush.

"When Joe McCarthy went around this country attacking people's patriotism, he was wrong," Mr. Clinton said. "And a Senator from Connecticut stood up to him named Prescott Bush. Your father was right to stand up to Joe McCarthy. You were wrong to attack my patriotism."

Mr. Bush has assailed Mr. Clinton's antiwar activities and trip to Moscow when he was a student in England in 1969.

Last night he repeated his criticism of Mr. Clinton's participation in "demonstrations against your own country in foreign soil," and he took exception to comparisons with the activities of Senator Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin in the 1950's.

In 1954, the elder Mr. Bush was a freshman Senator from Connecticut, and he led a drive to revamp Senate procedures to prevent any repetition of hearings in which a senator like McCarthy could freely accuse witnesses of being unpatriotic.

Later that year Senator Bush also voted to censure McCarthy, splitting from about half of the Senate's Republicans.
