WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic senators reacted sharply to criticism of what they called the President’s references to new isolationists, advocates of unilateral disarmament and critics of the military “offensive in Vietnam very greatly.”

“I believe this is a distortion of what we are saying—we’re critical of the political judgments, not the individual military,” Senator John Fife, D-Mo., a former secretary of the Air Force, has emerged as a leader of defense policy critics near the Senate.

Fulbright’s remarks came in testimony before a joint economic subcommittee investigating the military budget and in an impromptu news conference in the Senate.

He said he had interpreted the President as saying America will continue its role as a sort of welfare state. “It’s the thrust of his thinking that is very ominous,” Fulbright said. “He’s almost on an even keel with the previous administration. It’s absolutely poor judgment.”

Fulbright accused the President of painting critics as some way out of patriotic.

SAIGON (UPI)—The son of U.S. prisoners of war in Vietnam 20 months ago, was presented as saying in a radio broadcast Friday that North Vietnamese doctors performed an operation enabling him to walk again.

McCain, who reportedly suffered injuries and even death for the first time in the broadcast.

McCain, who was shot down in October 1967, is one of an estimated 1,100 U.S. prisoners being held in North Vietnam by the Vietnamese. The series apparently was presented as saying after the shooting of a scene in the broadcast.

The series was apparently being shown in connection with Defense Secretary Melvin Laird’s May report that there were serious questions about whether U.S. prisoners were receiving humane treatment.

“I have bombarded the cities in an effort to bring them into line and arm when he was faced with the armament of the people of North Vietnam, America’s voice identified as McCa’s said in the broadcast.

After I was captured, I was taken to a hospital in Hanoi where I received very good medical treatment. I was given an operation on an arm which was broken and which enabled me to walk again and a cast on my right arm, which was badly broken in three places,” McCain said.

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