Presidential power must be overseen

(Continued from page 3) law. "The history of congressional response in this area is one more example of the undue deference Congress gives to 'presidents.'"

Sorensen's comments weren't entirely confined to the Congress. He entreats the general public to look more skeptically upon presidents and not regard them as "omniscient, all-powerful leaders." "A president who is viewed as larger than life," Sorensen said, "may be tempted to become larger than law."

Sorensen's respondents at last Thursday's lecture, Richard Neustadt, Harvard professor of government, and Jeffrey Pressman, MIT professor of political science, were largely in concurrence with Sorensen's arguments.

Pressman was concerned that too much Congressional assertiveness over the presidency, which he sees as fragmented by many private interests, will "leave us with a form of federalism ill-equipped to deal with resource deficiencies and international problems."

Pressman also discussed areas such as the budget process, where excessive Congressional assertiveness might be harmful. Pressman also questioned the advisability of having an extremely strong cabinet. In that case, it might be difficult to assure the cabinet's accountability, he said.

Seminar on Merit and Equality in a Just Society

Thursday, October 10, 4:00 P.M.
Lecture Hall 9-150

Justice and Equality

ROBERT NOZICK, Philosophy, Harvard

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