

Sen. Gruening Urges Convention To Prevent Oil Pollution

Senator Ernest Gruening has urged Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall to convene an international convention on preventing oil pollution, following serious cases of oil pollution on the Atlantic coast and the breakup of the "Torrey Canyon" off England.

"No beach front property and no party of our coast line is now safe from the ravages of waste discharged from ships plying international waters," said Gruening. "Not only oil pollution, but other waste discharges are a threat of irreparable damage to wildlife, recreational re-

sources and valuable fisheries."

Gruening said tankers with capacities of up to 500,000 tons of oil, compared to the present average of 15,000 tons, can be realistically expected in the future. This will greatly increase the danger of pollution.

Although the United States is taking action within its jurisdiction to prevent this pollution, much of the tanker traffic is international in character, he said.

"This is an international problem and one of concern to all the world," said the senator in urging the international conference.