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Bob Considine

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Gloomy look at Nixon's GOP future

A former Nixon administration cabinet officer whose friendship with the former President is still strong privately grumbles:

"For the life of me, I can't understand Barry Goldwater anymore. He goes to see Nixon for a short time and comes away saying Dick might have a future in the Republican Party. Barry knows our friend is gone forever from power in the party. He's finished, kaput, and nobody knows it better than Dick. He knows he'd hurt us tremendously if he tried any kind of a comeback. God knows we're hurting enough."

The Washington Post's Potomac magazine indicates that morbid events there have not hurt business in the town's upper-crustier restaurants.

When Bobby Baker was released on parole he headed right over to Duke Zeibert's for a toast, and the L Street restaurant is still hosting the convicted high and mighty. In for lunch recently, after weeks of prison fare, was Herbert Kalmbach, accompanied by his lawyer; they were followed by John Mitchell and his lawyer. "What's this, a Halfway House?" grouched a regular customer.