SFChronicle Aug 1 4 1974 NIXON Apologizes To Herb Klein

Baltimore

Former President Nixon telephoned his former communications director, Herb klein, Monday and apologized for the derogatory remarks he made in tape recorded conversations, the Baltimore Sun reported yesterday.

In a story from its Washington Bureau, the Sun said it interviewed Klein by phone from Los Angeles, and that Mr. Nixon's long-time friend revealed the conversation.

In the tape of a June 23, 1972, conversation between Mr. Nixon and former White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman, the former President criticized Klein for not having his head screwed on. He just sort of blubbers around . . . sits there with egg on his face. He's just not our guy at all."

Transcripts of the tape were released by Mr. Nixon on August 5 and other portions of it led to his resignation.

According to Klein's account of the conversation Monday:

"The President came on the phone and said, 'Have you got your head screwed on today?' and sort of laughed."

The Sun said Klein indicated he did not find the subject funny.

Mr. Nixon further said he hoped Klein realized "it was one of those things I said and I didn't mean it, and I apologized for any embarrassment," the former aide said.

Klein, now a vice president of Metromedia, said Mr. Nixon told him he had "probably said worse things about other people."

United Press