

Goldwater Strains To Support Nixon

Phoenix

Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.), said yesterday it is becoming increasingly difficult to defend President Nixon in the Watergate scandal.

However, the senator told a news conference at his home that he can see no circumstances at present under which he would go to the President and ask for his resignation.

"I don't know who dreamed up that story," Goldwater said. "But it came from liberal columnists who said, 'Goldwater is our patsy and we'll pour cream on his head and blow him up a bit, and he'll go in and ask for President's resignation.'

"If I feel the country finally must get rid of Richard Nixon, then I'll go and tell him," said Goldwater.

In response to questions about the President's current problems, Goldwater conceded that it is becoming harder to defend Mr. Nixon.

"It ain't easy," he said.

"You've put your finger on something that makes all Republicans very uneasy. It is not easy to defend, but he is my President and I'm not going to use the excuse that it may have been done before."

The Arizona senator said he does not regard his own seat or that of any other Republican or incumbent as safe in the November elections.

"Despite my seat having been described as safe by the New York Times, I look for a very tough fight and I think it will be very tough for all Republicans," he said.

Associated Press